



異世界魔王と  
召喚少女の奴隷魔術

The King of  
Darkness Another  
World Story

SLAVE

4

むらさきゆきや

ILLUST. 鶴崎貴大

# **Isekai Maou to Shoukan Shoujo Dorei Majutsu**

**Vol.4**

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# Illustration



ルマキーナは生まれて初めて受ける恥辱に

頭が真っ白になり、

目尻に涙が浮かんた。

「や、やめ

やめ.....めて

Lumachina's mind went blank from the first disgrace she received in her live, and tears surfaced to the corners of her eyes. 「St, stop.....St.....op it.....」



「W, welcome~, back? Goshujin-sama?」「キラキラ (Sparkle sparkle) – nanoda☆」



「Alright, I'm going to scrub you.」 She moved her body up and down. A soft

sensation went up and down his back.

# Prologue

Purplish red liquid ran along the skin that had small scales lined up on it and fell.

The legs of the Demonic Beast kicked the ground.

The Grand Dragon, which was faster than a fast horse, was running.

Alicia tightly grasped the reins that had closely packed thorns that were meant to prevent slipping.

"Haa.....haa....."

It felt as if she would be thrown off the Demonic Beast's back if she were to lessen her strength even just a little.

Alicia had the position called State Knight, but in the innermost depths of her heart, she desired the destruction of the Races, and supported the Demonic Beings. If the Demon King were revived, she would reach her objective, even though that is what she thought.....

To think that the Demon King Krebskrum that she had seen be revived would then vanish!

In retaliation for being made to go on a fool's errand, the Demonic Beings were trying to kill her.

As a result, Alicia, together with the little Demonic Being girl Edelgart, got on Edelgart's Demonic Beast and was running away.

When they slipped out from the mass of Demonic Beings—  
Edelgart was inflicted with a severe wound.

Right now, she was drained of strength and was shaking about on the Demonic Beast's back as if she were luggage. Purplish blood was spilling from her head, and it didn't stop.

As for how much hemorrhaging a Demonic Being could take before it became a matter a life or death, Alicia had investigated a lot about Demonic Beings, but since it greatly differed between individuals, she didn't know for certain.

But there was no mistake that Edelgart was in a dangerous state.

"Edelgart-sama, please hang in there!"

".....Ah, u.....n"

This wound was made because Edelgart had protected Alicia. If Edelgart was

alone, she could have escaped uninjured.

Alicia had a rebellious heart towards the irrational surroundings as well as a boiling hatred towards the Races, but right now, she wanted to save Edelgart—that is all that she was thinking about.

The sun had set, and the surroundings were already dark.

Since the Grand Dragon's eyes worked in the dark, it didn't run into rocks or stray from the main road just because it was dark.

"Nonetheless, we can't possibly go as far as the town gates like this."

".....Rea, lly?"

Edelgart asked that with a voice that could barely be caught.

Alicia shook her head left and right.

"Even if I do have the position of State Knight, if I were to pass through the gate straddling a Demonic Beast bringing along a Demonic Being, I am sure that I would be arrested then and there."

".....Is that so."

Alicia turned her head to the back.

"It would seem that the chasing Demonic Beings aren't there."

".....Because, we are fast~"

"That is true. I was surprised."

It seemed that the Grand Dragon was faster than a majority of Demonic Beings.

".....Also.....Probably, afraid?"

"I see. It is because the Demonic Beings do not have an understanding of the reason why Demon King-sama's presence was extinguished."

There was a high possibility that an existence capable of defeating the Demon King was in this Fortress Town Faltra.

Edelgart groaned.

".....Why? Why.....did Demon King-sama.....va, nish? Did she, vanish?"

Alicia also didn't understand the reason why Krebskrum had disappeared.

However, she somehow made a guess.

"Most likely, Diablo-sama had done something."

".....Hi, m.....huh."

Her voice was frail.

Edelgart, who seemed like such a strong existence, now looked like she was fleeting and would vanish. When her skin was touched, it now felt cold like ice.

She opened her cracked lips that had turned purple.

".....From here on, what will~.....you do?"

"As long as I am being chased by the Demonic Beings, I cannot do anything but stay in the town. However, I am a traitor. Moreover, your appearance will stand out, so what would be the best thing to do?"

".....Do not, know. Edelgart will—.....die? Maybe."

"Is, is it that bad!?"

".....If stay, at this rate."

"You can't! Something like that is."

"Bu—t—.....no longer have place, to go to. If return, to Demon King Castle~.....  
By, Ourou and others.....Gohoh!"

She vomited a clot of blood.

"I, I understand! I will do something about it, so please do not talk anymore!"

Alicia pulled the reins, and stopped the Grand Dragon. They were in a place where they barely couldn't be seen from Faltra City's South Gate.

She was vigilant of their back, but there really weren't any Demonic Being pursuers.

She took down the exhausted Edelgart. Taking off her own mantle, she wrapped up that brown body.

"It does not cover you down to your legs, but if it is this dark, they should not be able to discover the scales that are on your skin."

".....What, will you do?"

"We are entering the town."

If they were to stay outside like this, they will either be killed by the Demonic Beings, attacked by wild animals, or lose their lives from their wounds. In any of the cases, they wouldn't be saved.

"W, hy?"

"This will be a gamble but—If Demon King-sama was not defeated, but returned to her child appearance....."

"Demon King-sama, is, alive? Really?"

"If she is, we will have her heal you. If it is by Demon King-sama, it should be possible, right?"

".....Possi—.....ble. But, feels like, will not heal?"

In order to awaken Demon King Krebskrum, Alicia betrayed Diablo and the

others.

Waiting until Rem and Shera became like part of the family to Krum—She then instigated the Holy Knight Sadraa. She induced him to kill Rem in front of Krum's eyes.

The hatred from having someone important taken away would awaken the pure Demon King.

Even if Krum were alive, she would probably bear a grudge against Alicia to the point of wanting to kill her. She should have also bought Diablo's resentment.

Alicia then thought that Rem had probably died. If that weren't the case, Demon King Krebskrum shouldn't have revived even if it was only temporary. The moment that she showed herself in front of Diablo and the others, she might be turned to cinders. There was no room for negotiations.

—But even so!

"Please leave it to me. I will do something about it."

Alicia bundled up Edelgart, who had become unable to move, in her mantle, and lifted her up in her arms. She had a woman's slender arms, but she had stacked up enough training to not lose to some random man. It was at least possible to lift up Edelgart who was short even when compared to a Human woman.

".....Understood.....Can't move, anyway.....Leave, to you."

Shouldering Edelgart like she was luggage, Alicia aimed for Faltra City's West Gate.

The Grand Dragon turned a worried look towards them, but with its appearance, they couldn't ride on it into a town of the Races.

When Alicia and Edelgart separated from it, the fast running Demonic Beast turned its heel, and vanished into the plains of the black of night.

# **Chapter 1: Trying Out Exterminating a Mouse**

# Part 1

Diablo was stretched out on the bed and breathed out a deep sigh.

—It was a disastrous day.

At times where there was an accident, it pretty much felt like that, but today really was disastrous.

Since he found just remembering what had happened to be a pain, he put it aside in his mind but.....

Right now, he had consumed a majority of his MP, and he had recieved the most amount of damage since he had come to this world.

Diablo wore equipment on his body that was counted among the strongest in the MMORPG Cross Reverie. Moreover, he had strengthened that equipment to their limits.

Even if he were to receive an attack that would give instant death to an ordinary person, he would only feel it enough to notice it when hit by it.

However, right now, he bore some considerable injuries.

Demon King Krebskrum's attack was something like a child throwing objects, but it had easily broken through the Physical Damage Reduction effect of his strongest equipment.

Diablo started thinking.

—I guess that should be expected of a Demon King. If Krebskrum's memories had completely returned, I might not have won with my current equipment.

"....."

"You're kinda making a difficult face, aren't you, Diablo?"

The left side of the bed creaked.

The one laying down beside him was a young Elf girl.

Her soft golden hair was spread out like a streaming river, and it touched Diablo's arm. It tickled a bit.

She was Shera L. Greenwood.

She was of the Elf tribe, which was said to be the closest to the Divine Beings, and moreover, she was thier princess. She was in the middle of running away from home seeking freedom.

Diablo had already become considerably familiar with her, but even so, when she approached him with a surprise attack, he still would get a bit nervous. His current self was claimed to be a “Demon King that came from another world”, and he did actually boast of overwhelming magical power in this world. However, in truth, he was a shut-in gamer with a communication disorder. He was so weak with conversations that he couldn’t talk unless he used the Demon King role play that he used in the game.

In particular, he hardly even had any experience talking with women. The Solo Player that had zero resistance to women had a blond Elf that made him think that she was CG within 15 centimeters from him.

In his mind, his heart was racing.

However, revealing such a shameful true character wasn’t Demon King-like at all.

Diablo exhibited his Demon King role play and made a declaration with a haughty attitude.

"Making a difficult face, you say? Hmph, naturally.....For I am looking into an abyss that someone like you cannot even fathom."

"Waah~, that’s kinda amazing! What’s an abis?"

Maybe because she was pure, or maybe simple, the childish thinking Shera turned a reverent look towards him.

In actual fact, what Diablo was currently looking into was Shera’s cleavage which was way too abundant for an Elf but.....

""Abyss” is a metaphor for the profound things that know no boundaries."

On the right side of the bed, opposite from Shera, another young lady—Rem Galeu was sitting.

In a place where he could touch if he moved his hand even a little, was her butt. A tail like that of a black cat extended out from a hole on her spats.

Rem possessed black panther-type ears and tail that were rare even among Pantherians. Her hair was also black.

In exchange, though that probably isn’t the case, for a 14-year-old, she had a slender body type. From her sides that had her ribs lightly showing to her toned arms and legs, her body with no uselessness in it attracted gazes and wouldn’t let them go.

Her long black hair streamed down from atop her body as if it were ink that had

been spilled.

Rem always talked after thinking for a short while.

".....Diablo, since it has been a day that had terrible things happen, how about resting already?"

She was a very intellectual young lady.

"Umu, I suppose we should."

".....Yes."

While singing a strange song that Shera had created, a single child got up onto the bed.

"Let's sleep—♪ Let's sleep—♪ Let's go to sleep already—♪ Once night is done, it'll be breakfast time—♪ In our dreams, there'll be donuts, marshmallows, and stollen♪"

It was a child that possessed cream colored hair. Thick horns grew from the left and right sides of her head.

She had ears that were larger than those of Elves, and scarlet pupils that aren't normally seen on people of the Races. She was Demon King Krebskrum's young body—Krum.

On her face, there was a slight complexion of fear.

"Is, is it okay? For Maou to be here too....."

"Why? Do you not want to sleep together? I wonder if it really is too small?"

Shera tilted her head.

Krum squinted her eyes.

"Maou killed people of the Races –noda zo!? I even tried to kill Diablo. You consider me dangerous, do you not!?"

"Ahaha, the only one worried is Sylvie-san—"

While laughing, Shera patted Krum's head.

The one called Sylvie was the Guildmaster of the Adventurer's Guild. Having that position, she said that she "couldn't allow Demon King Krebskrum in the town even if she had the appearance of a child".

Certainly, it was a fact that Krum had turned into Demon King Krebskrum and went on a huge rampage. If Diablo hadn't fought against her, she might have turned the town to ruins.

However, there was a reason that was not at all normal for that.

The person of the Races that she had killed was an abnormal person that was

like an evil murderer called the Holy Knight Sadraa. Rem and Krum were nearly killed by him.

Diablo thought about it.

—It's alright for a dangerous guy like him to live in the town, but Krum isn't allowed, isn't that just strange? The current Krum is just a child. To be made uneasy despite that, that's so sad.

However, speaking kindly to a little girl, that wasn't really Demon King-like. Diablo raised his body and tried to convey "there's no need to worry" while preserving his majesty.

"Hmph.....You tried to kill me, you say? Do not make me laugh. An attack of that level would have no effect on me. After all, I am the true Demon King! If you hold any doubt of that, you should challenge me once more. However, at that time, I will not hold back. I shall change you into garbage."

Shera and Rem made uneasy-looking faces.

"Hau~, I don't want you guys to fight anymore, okay?"

".....Please calm down, you two."

Diablo broke out into a cold sweat in his mind. Could it be that his provocation was too excessive? Was his lack of communicative ability displayed?

If she were to say "We'll fight right now!", it would be intensely troublesome. Krum came flying at him.

"Uhehe! Then, that is good –noda! You are sturdy! I shall praise you!"

She tightly hugged him.

Maybe because she was a child, her body temperature was high. Also due to Faltra City being warm, the little girl muffler was a bit hot.

At the neck of that charming Krum, rustic chains made a jangling sound.

Rem also had a iron ring placed around her own neck.

".....Now that I think about it, since 《Slave Magic》 has been cast upon her in the first place, Krum should be unable to fight with Diablo."

In order to sweep away the Adventurer's Guild Guildmaster Sylvie's worries, Krum was made to be absolutely obedient with magic. As proof of that, a 《Slave Choker》 was placed upon her.

The particulars were different from the 《Slavery Chokers》 that were on Rem and Shera's necks, but they were similar things.

Diablo once again entrusted his body to the bed.

"Let us go to sleep already."

"Oka~y!"

Shera, who had the most adult-like body type, was the most child-like among them. She brought her body that had a sexual feeling to it close to him.

And then, as usual, Krum stayed clinging onto him. It was a bit hot.

"Umu, we'll sleep –noda! Well, Maou is fine even without sleep though – nodagana."

Rem quite reservedly lied down at the edge of the bed.

".....Well then, good night."

She extended her hand, and put out the wall-mounted candle's light. She placed a something that was similar to an iron ladle on it and extinguished the flame.

When it became dark, drowsiness immediately assailed him.



Diablo didn't notice it.  
That from a crack in the wall, there was a dreadful existence that was staring at

him.

## Part 2

\*Karikarikari.....\* (Scratching)

Over Diablo's head, there was some kind of sound that he just couldn't get used to.

It was a sound like that of a devil scratching with its nails.

The first one to get up was Rem, and with a \*bafuh\*, she hit the bed.

"Diablo!"

"Wha.....!?"

Having the area near his pillow hit and being called out to, he woke up.

However, the room was enveloped in darkness.

In the MMORPG Cross Reverie, even if it were in the depths of a dungeon, there didn't exist any places that were completely dark.

Even if it were a fairly dark stage within a scene, if the display's brightness was turned all the way up, it was possible to see things that affected the game's outcome.

However, since this was another world and not the game, the darkness stayed as nothing but darkness.

—Thinking that this might happen, I've thought of a counter-measure for night warfare!

Diablo stretched one hand out to the ceiling.

"《Light》!"

A ball of light flew towards the ceiling, and once it hit, it burst and light spread out in the room.

It was a Light Attribute Elementary level magic. His practising of magic during his spare time proved to be of merit.

Shera got up while rubbing her eyes due to it being so bright.

"Nn~? What is it~?"

"Ku—.....Supi—....."

Krum, who said "Maou is fine even without sleep –noda", is firmly sound asleep even with it being this bright and noisy.

Rem pointed at the wall.

"Diablo, it is that!"

"Muh!?"

What was scampering about and running up the wall was, close-to-black grey creature that had a slender tail.

A small animal that vanished into a crevice in the wall and ceiling.

It was a rat.

What, so it was just a rat—is what he was about to yawn, but then he suddenly realised something.

—Wasn't it making a noise around my head!?

"C, could it be that it was gnawing at my horns!?"

"EHH!?"

Rem and Shera looked hard at him.

Wasn't a Demon King that had his horns gnawed by a mouse really uncool?

A cold sweat was pouring out.

Rem took a breath.

"There aren't any changes in particular."

"Yup, it's the usual Diablo～"

Shera also made a gentle smile.

He almost fell due to too much relief, but instead, it was here that he made a face that said “naturally”.

"W, well, there is no way something like a mere mouse would be able to damage my horns. Umu."

—Thank goodness～!! I was about to turn into Doraomon, you know!?

Rem turned her gaze towards the crevice that the mouse vanished into.

"It isn't that unusual for preserved food and equipment to receive damage from them. Tomorrow, let's purchase a mouse extermination tool."

"Hmph, next time I see it, I shall blow it away with my magic."

".....It feels like it will disappear along with the ceiling."

"That'll make it so that we can see the starry sky, won't it～.....Fuwah～"

Shera made a yawn while smiling.

And then, she suddenly asked a question.

"Hey, hey, Diablo? This brightness, when will it go out?"

"Mu?"

The effect of 《Light》 continued in the room.

Come to think of it, he had practiced the method of how to make it bright as a countermeasure for night warfare, but he hadn't thought of how to erase it. He expressed a placid smile and replied.

"Hmph, if you call yourself an Adventurer, you need to be able to sleep even in bright areas."

However, to be completely honest, even Diablo thought "It's hard to sleep!"  
—Damn you, rat!

He harbored a bloodlust like never before.

Rem lied down without looking like she minded.

".....I rather find it easier to sleep with it being so bright as there is no longer any fear of a night attack."

"Eh~? It's kinda dazzling, you know~?"

While grumbling that, Shera got down from the bed. Just like that, she headed towards the door.

Diablo reflexively asked a question.

"Where are you going?"

It couldn't be that she "had enough of this and was leaving", right? That is what he started to worry about.

Shera's cheeks blushed.

"The toilet."

"I, I see. I allow it, go."

"Nn"

Having gone out into the corridor alone, Shera screamed.

## Part 3

This time, even Krum had jumped to her feet.

"What is happening –nanoda—!?"

Shera and—one more person entered this room that still had the 《Light》 effect going on.

Shera was grabbed by a hand that went around her to her back, and had a dagger thrust at her breasts. Her face was stiff from fear and surprise.

The attacker, was someone that Diablo's group knew very well.

Rem raised her voice.

"Alicia!?"

Even the other party had a surprised look.

"Rem-sama!? Y, you were able to stay alive!?"

".....Yes.....Because of your lies, I was about to be killed by Sadraa, but I was saved by Diablo and Shera."

"Is that so."

Alicia expressed a face that looked like she was relieved.

However, she immediately returned to her former severe atmosphere.

"Please do not move! I am serious."

The tip of the dagger that was thrust at Shera touched the clothes that wrapped up those abundant breasts of hers.



"Hii!?"

Shera looked like she was about to burst into tears.

Right at the entrance to the room, Alicia, who had taken Shera hostage, was there.

Diablo and the others got down from the bed and put themselves on guard, but in this situation, they couldn't make any careless movements.

Krum glared at her.

"How dare you appear before Maou –nanoda. As I will be tearing you limb from limb, you should release Shera."

Despite having the appearance of a little girl, the intensity of that intent to kill was the genuine article. Enough to make them worry if she might turn into Demon King Krebskrum again.

Alicia swung her head vertically.

".....Once my business had ended, I will release Shera-sama, and then, whether it be tearing me limb from limb or something else, please do as you like."

"Hou?"

"I have heard, Demon King-sama, that you are able to heal a Demonic Being's wounds."

"Of course –nanoda."

"May I have you come this way?"

—They moved to the next room over.

Come to think of it, the room that Alicia rented remained just as it was.

Since they thought that she probably wouldn't return, they didn't visit it.

Purplish red liquid had fallen onto the floor in several places.

There was a young lady sleeping on the bed.

It was Edelgart.

"A Demonic Being!?"

Rem became alert but.....

No matter how she looked at her, she had a serious wound. Purplish red blood was spread out on the sheets. The color of her skin had changed to a deathly pale color.

If she were a person of the Races, someone would surely think that she was a corpse. Since Demonic Beings would turn into grains of light and disappear when they die, she was probably still alive.

Diablo understood the situation.

"I see, so you two were connected. During the time that we met with Edelgart at 《Starfall Tower》 before, even though we hurriedly brought you along, Alicia, she didn't ask who you were. I thought that it was strange at that time but..... Come to think of it, although she didn't confirm whether or not I could pour magical power, you had told her that I had learned it at the slave shop, didn't you."

Not just Alicia, even Rem and Shera had made surprised looks.

"As expected of you, Diablo-sama."

"That's amazing. To think that you would take notice of such small details, I had not considered that."

"I didn't notice at all!"

—Do I have a personality that minds the little details too much? Or could it be that the girls are surprisingly not paying enough attention to detail?

In any case, although he was bothered by the relationship between Alicia and Edelgart, in the end, he didn't mention it, and since that almost led to Rem being killed, he couldn't take pride in it.

Krum stood in front of the bed.

"So? Who was the one that took her down —noda? This fellow, I had thought that she was a pretty strong Demonic Being —nodagana?"

"It was the other Demonic Beings."

"What? Why would a Demonic Being be taken down by a Demonic Being —noda?"

"We had planned Krebskrum-sama's revival, and once that was completed, you would surely destroy the town's barrier, is what we had thought."

Alicia talked about the details of the Demonic Being side.

And then, while still holding the dagger towards Shera, she made an entreaty.

"I beg of you.....Demon King Krebskrum-sama, somehow.....please save Edelgart-sama."

With her arms folded, Krum turned her head towards Diablo's direction.

"What do you think —noda?"

"Go save her."

—It would be too pitiful if she went and died.

No matter who the other person is, life is precious, is the thought that he had due to him being a peace-loving fool, and he didn't consider being

unreasonable and try to change that.

—Coming to this other world, there might be guys that would lose their resistance to people dying once they killed things like monsters, and then eventually grow accustomed to taking lives.

At the very least, Diablo was different.

If there were actually someone that was close to death right in front of him, he would want to save them, is what he believed.

Of course, he wouldn't say something foolish like "if I have to kill, it would be better to be killed instead", but if he had to choose, he would prefer that no one died.

Krum nodded.

"As long as you tell me to, Maou won't mind healing Demonic Beings either – noda."

She touched Edelgart with her small hand.

The purplish red blood got on it.

"Haaaaaaa!!!"

When Krum put some feeling into it, Edelgart stirred.

"Ugh.....uu....."

"Teyaaaahhhhh!!!"

Rem minded the door.

".....Is this alright? It is a pretty late hour."

"Isn't it fine? It was fine before when Rem made a loud voice after all."

"Ugh"

At the time when her ears were attacked by Diablo, and the time when magical power was poured into her by Shera, Rem's heavy breathing resounded quite a bit throughout the inn.

Krum's spirited voice and Edelgart's anguished voice continued.

"Toryaaaahh!!!"

"Aguh! Ugh.....Kufuh!"

"Nshaah!!!"

"Hah! Nkuuh, aaaaahhh!!!"

"Neryah! Ah~.....Since I am tired, I will do it quietly now –noda."

Krum wiped the sweat on her forehead.

He reflexively made a retort.

"If you're going to do it quietly, do that from the beginning!"

"U—n.....I could do that —noda, but～"

"Is there some kind of problem?"

"It wouldn't give the feeling that something amazing is happening. Maou is amazing —nodazo!?"

"Yeah, you are amazing, you are amazing. So do it quietly. Or else we will be expelled from the inn."

It is pretty scary when the 《Relieff》Inn's poster girl idol, Mei-chan, gets angry. Krum closed her mouth and concentrated.

Edelgart raised a remarkably loud voice, and arched her back. And then, she collapsed in exhaustion.

It seemed that the bleeding had stopped.

Surprisingly, Edelgart immediately raised her body up. Even though she was so close to death just a little while ago!

Getting down from the blood stained bed, she got down to one knee on the floor.

"Demon King-sama, greatly～, blessed! Gratitude? Gratitude!"

"Umu umu."

"Um.....Demon King-sama is～, alive? Why.....turned back to original? Why?"

"Maou had something incredibly sad happen —noda. I thought that something sad had happened —noda. Then the world became deep red. But it wasn't. Since I hadn't awakened, I returned to normal —noda."

"Is, that, so."

"It is fine as long as Maou can eat biscuits —noda. Is there something wrong with that —nanoda?"

Edelgart bowed her head very deeply.

And then, she groaned.

"Don't, understand.....Don't understand? Don't understand! Demonic Beings are, things that kill people of Races. Things of destruction. Why?"

Krum tilted her head.

"Who knows? Maou is now living in a town of the Races. Let us stop such a sad thing already. If you will not listen to this command, you will no longer be Maou's subordinate —noda."

Edelgart consented.

"Swear.....Will never again, oppose.....Demon King.....-sama's, will."

It would seem that there are no problems on this side. Edelgart was originally the type that could be talked to, and she places emphasis on loyalty towards the Demon King over killing people of the Races.

## Part 4

Alicia released her hand from Shera. She also put away the dagger.

"Thank you very much. Now what will my punishment be?"

".....Could you tell us your reasons?"

Rem asked that question.

"The reason why I handed you over to Sadraa? It was for the sake of the Demon King's revival, and because I am a Demon King Worshipper that desires the Demon King's revival."

".....So it would seem. But, what I want to know, why would you, a State Knight and daughter of Duke house, become something like a Demon King Worshipper."

Alicia bit her back teeth.

Having a bad look in her eyes, she showed a vaguely rough expression. She was completely different from the sociable honors student air that she had up until now. It seems that this was closer to her unadulterated side.

"Mankind should just be destroyed—Have you ever had that thought? I'll beat you to death, you shitty bastard! Have you ever shouted that in your mind?"

".....Putting the degree of it aside, I have gotten angry with others. Probably, a lot more than you think I have."

"I was forced to take a "righteousness" that I cannot agree with....."

".....Going by your position, would that be in the Royal Capital?"

"Both of my parents, the other State Knights, the Cabinet Ministers in the royal palace.....And then, even the King. For me, I can no longer help but see the people of the Races as something unsightly. Enough for me to wish for this world to be destroyed."

".....What happened to you?"

"Instead, it might have been better if there was an event that led me to be like this. Then I might be convinced with "that was a unique accident". I believe that I have been too exposed to the selfish desires that covered themselves with masks of good will and to the reverse side of splendid people that are nothing but titles."

".....I see."

"Or maybe, it might have been better to just abandon the country and become an Adventurer."

Alicia looked at Shera.

Being a bit late, Shera seemed to have realized that was put out as an example.

"Ah, yeah! There were things I didn't like about the Elven country, but now I'm having fun! The forest at night was scary but.....Thanks to Rem and Diablo, things are fun now!"

"Why didn't you want to destroy the country of the Elves?"

"EHH!? I mean, I just didn't fit in and.....although I was separated from all of them, it was fine if they lived with their own kind of happiness....."

"Did you not think that you could not allow the things that you hate to exist in this world?"

"I think I just didn't care?"

This was the Shera that hardly got hung up by anything.

"I couldn't allow them."

Alicia grinded her teeth.

Rem asked a question with a bitter face.

".....You came to hate the Races, and so you continued working as a State Knight in order to destroy them?"

"Yes. I had thought that the most efficient way to bring their downfall, could only be the Demon King's revival."

"What a thing to....."

To think that the inner part of the virtuous and honor student-like Alicia, was a bunch of muddled hatred.....

Would she have been able to be saved if she had a more flexible, or maybe suitable, personality? Even if she had things that she disliked, what if she forgot about it by relaxing with other things.

—I guess I'm something similar, aren't I?

If he was able to skillfully release his negative feelings, he might have become more proactive in life. He might have done his best in whatever in a good way. Would things have ended without him escaping into net games to the point of being called an invalid?

Alicia was someone that was too serious. That alone was what showed on both her inner and outer faces. No matter what she did, she earnestly exerted her all

without making any compromise. As a result—even in her hatred against the Races, she seriously headed for their reduction. In the form of aiming for the Demon King's revival.

Alicia stared at Krum.

"Demon King-sama, are you truly not considering trying to bring about the ruin of the Races?"

"So obstinate –noda. If I were to hate the people of the Races as much as you, I wouldn't even fall to despair. To begin with, of the Races, I only know of the ones here and Peter."

The one called Peter was a bakery in the south district and sold delicious biscuits. It was run by three sibling Grasswalkers but it's said that it was the three of them put together that made up Peter. What the heck, that's not a personal name but a unit name, isn't it.

Alicia nodded.

".....Is that so.....In that case, there is.....no longer anything left for me."

When she lowered her head, she once again pulled out the dagger that had been sheathed.

And then, she raised it up to the back of her own neck.

Rem panicked.

"Wh, what do you intend to do!?"

"I did not think that I would be forgiven for my betrayal towards all of you.....In that case, I thought it would be best to end it all myself."

"Don't do something so stupid!"

"Do you think so? It is something that cannot be forgiven, is it not? Not threatened by someone, nor ordered to do so, I attempted to have Rem-sama killed as a sacrifice in order to revive Demon King-sama simply because I hoped for the massive killing of the Races, you know?"

".....I am amazed by your sincerity towards the mistaken direction. However, you do understand that not everyone is the same as you, right?"

"Of course I do. It is because I differ from them that I hold unpleasant feelings for those around me."

".....In that case, please understand that I don't wish for your death."

"EH!?"

Even Diablo was surprised by this. In this recent matter, the one that faced the

most cruelty was Rem.

Alicia asked with a face that said that she couldn't believe it.

"What might be the meaning of this? Do you feel that I am your comrade because of how we saved Shera-sama? If that is the case, that is a misunderstanding. That was because there was an adequate chance of victory and I only cooperated with you all in order to become trusted. I am an enemy of the Races."

".....In that case.....Why, did you release Shera unharmed just now?"

Alicia was bewildered by Rem's question.

"Eh? That is because I had promised to do so....."

"If you really wanted to kill the Races and already intended to commit suicide, then you should have been fine with stabbing Shera."

Even though it was an example, Shera trembled from that talk being made. She hid behind Diablo.

"Th, that's scary~"

"Be at ease. This is a speech about how Alicia's words of "want to kill the Races" is a falsehood because she had not done that."

"Nn~to.....So in other words, does that mean that Alicia-san doesn't hate the Races?"

"She must have people that she hates enough to want to kill them. However, at the very least, it would seem that you, Shera, weren't put in her list of "people I absolutely want to kill before I die". Good for you."

"I did it!"

Shera raised up both hands.

Rem pointed her index finger.

".....Alicia, you feel strong hatred for someone of the Races, don't you.

However, you felt relieved by how I was alive, and there is a discrepancy in your words and actions from how you did not injure Shera."

"I see. That is true."

".....So how is it? Do you truly feel that you want to kill us?"

"It is just as you say, Rem-sama. I am a bit reluctant, but this might be where we should fight."

"If you are reluctant, then please stop!"

"B, but, it is not good to leave things incomplete, and I must follow through

with my words or else....."

".....Why are you so pointlessly diligent. Rather, don't you think that what you are saying is strange?"

"I am not normal, after all. I.....I have had enough of this! I did not have any expectations of being understood by others anyway. After all! I am all alone!"

In the end, Alicia did not slash at Rem, and tried to thrust the dagger at her own neck.

Rem extended her hand to try and stop her. However, there was no way that she would make it.

Shera raised a small scream and closed her eyes.

Krum and Edelgart basically had no concern about her losing her life, and calmly watched the scene.

Diablo chanted.

"《Arm Scrap》!!"

The tip of Alicia's dagger hit her white throat.

At that instant—the blade crumbled.

As if the dagger were made out of sand, silver grains of sand smoothly spilled down and created a pile on the floor.

"Wha.....!?"

Not just Alicia, even Rem, Shera, and Krum were surprised and gazed at Diablo.

## Part 5

He saved her on the spur of the moment.

He needed to say something. Moments of silence are tough.

"Th, that just now was weapon destroying magic. Though it is restricted to weapons that have not been bestowed with magic."

What he blurted out was an explanation of the magic.

He understood that this was different from the words that they were expecting, but if he were able to say something good in this sort of situation, he would have lived a life where he was better at dealing with things.

Incidentally, in the game, since 《Arm Break》 had no effect on equipment that was greater than Rare, it was of no use in Player battles, but it did have an effect in drastically shaving off the offensive ability of monsters that possessed weapons.

".....Erm.....That is quite an amazing magic, but."

Rem had a baffled expression.

Alicia made an imploring face and asked.

"Why, did you interfere? Diablo-sama, just what kind of thoughts were you thinking?"

—I wasn't thinking anything at all!

I am really sorry!

It's just that he didn't want to see a person die right before his eyes, even moreso when it was person that was once a companion.

But valuing a person's life, that wasn't Demon King-like.

Edelgart, who had been silently kneeling until then, stood up.

"Dying, no meaning, to it."

Everyone made a "?" face. They had no idea what she was trying to say.

Maybe because she realized that she didn't explain it enough, Edelgart added to her words.

"Even if you die~, Diablo and others get no profit. That's why~, probably no meaning? No meaning!"

"Atone, is that what this means? But, how do I do it?"

Alicia looked at Diablo.

Even if she looked his way, he wasn't thinking about the advantages and disadvantages of whether a person lives or dies in the first place. Demonic Beings are scary.

But even so, Diablo didn't tear down his placid attitude. Now that it's become like this, it required courage to speak his heart out and say "I don't have the answer".

"Hmph.....what should you do, you ask? To not know something of that degree, you are surprisingly a dullard, aren't you."

—Although I don't know either!

After worrying about it for a bit, Alicia nodded.

"After proving useful to Diablo-sama, I should die.....that is what this means, correct?"

"U, umu."

Die at the end your life span.

"However, is there anything that I am still able to do?"

Rem tilted her head.

".....Alicia, you are a State Knight. By stopping the deployment of the military, wouldn't that mean that you helped us?"

"That depends if I still have my position as a State Knight. In regards to how I handed you, Rem-sama, over to Sadraa, I do not know how that will be reported to the royal capital."

".....Is there someone to make that report? Sadraa and the others have died, and the ones that saw Diablo and Krebskrum's fight are us.....And then, I think Sylvie and Emil?"

"Apart from the army and the State Knights, His Majesty Dalesh Sandros seems to possess an independent intelligence network."

This was his first time hearing the King's name.

In the game, he should have only been referred to as "Lifelia's King". MMORPG Cross Reverie wasn't of the military history genre, so things related to the country and the royal family were pretty much omitted.

If it were reported that "Alicia planned the Demon King's revival", not only would she lose her position as a State Knight, she would probably end up being pursued as a criminal.

Diablo shrugged his shoulders.

"That does not matter."

"Eh.....?"

"Your position does not matter, that is what I am saying."

"B, but.....If I was no longer a State Knight, would that not mean I have no value....."

Things like her personal history or her position, whether she would prove useful or not, Diablo didn't care for any of that.

—What's wrong with being a shut-in NEET! It's society that's in the wrong! A world where you can't live if you don't work is wrong! A world that makes me work should just be destroyed!

However, it seemed like she wasn't bursting with such shut-in NEET-like thoughts. Thinking about how to explain it to her, Rem nodded, looking like she agreed.

"It is just as Diablo says."

—Eh?

No, calm down. It wasn't about the shouting in my head, it was probably about the remark of "your position does not matter".

Rem asked a question to Alicia.

".....Your position as a State Knight, is that something that the important people of the country decided?"

"Of course it is."

"Alicia, the ones that you despise, it isn't us, but those important people, right?"

"Th, that is correct.....That is exactly it. But, I do not understand. Just.....what is it that I should do?"

".....As for that, I don't know either."

Rem and the others looked at Diablo.

He was troubled when they brought up difficult topics like the country or people's lives. He didn't have rich judgment that would just point out the answer with a snap.

All that he did have was experience within the game.

However, Demon Kings weren't allowed to respond with an "I don't know". In terms of their image that is.

Diablo curved the ends of his lips, and daringly smiled.

"There is only annihilation!"

"EH!?"

"Th, that is....."

Naturally, both Alicia and Rem were bewildered. Shera made a face that said that she didn't understand.

On the contrary, Krum deeply nodded her head.

"That is exactly it –nanoda! If you don't like something, whether it be the country or the king, just simply get rid of them!"

"Ohh~, at last, Demon King-sama is.....Motivated? Motivated! She is!!"  
Edelgart's eyes sparkled.

The story might have turned to a bit of an ominous direction.

Alicia tightly clenched her fists.

"Understood. I shall do my best in aiming for the overthrowing of the nation! If that shall be of use to you, Diablo-sama!"

—Nwhat!?

Before he knew it, things had turned into Diablo thinking of overthrowing the Kingdom of Lifelia.

Rem and Shera made baffled faces.

"Is, is that true, Diablo?"

"Is it really because you're a Demon King, that you want to fight against the Races?"

—Waitwaitwaitwait, please wait!?

This is bad!

Even if he was doing his Demon King role play, and pulled along by Alicia who had a grudge against the important people of the kingdom, to think things would go in the direction of the overthrowing of the Kingdom of Lifelia.

At present, Diablo didn't have an objective, but something like "I was bored so I tried overthrowing a country", that would be what a genuine Demon King would do, wasn't it!

This was something that he absolutely couldn't just go with the flow and nod to. Diablo drew his lips back.

"W, well, if they were to oppose me, I won't show any mercy. However, as of now, I am not too knowledgeable in regards to the Kingdom of Lifelia, you see?"

I would annihilate anyone without hesitation no matter who they are, but that is only if they show hostility. If they show hostility."

"It is just as you say, Diablo-sama. Unless the enemy's war potential is understood, victory is uncertain."

"No....."

—I didn't say it with that kind of meaning though!?

However, there was no way that Diablo's inner thoughts would be transmitted to Alicia.

"I do not know what will happen to my position but.....I shall gather as much information as I can."

Alicia was totally into the idea of overthrowing the Kingdom of Lifelia.

This isn't a joke but.....In terms of his Demon King role play, he couldn't say that peace was the best.

"I, I see. Well, do it slowly, and carefully, and make an effort when you feel like it."

Alicia knelt down.

"Diablo-sama, thank you very much. I was about to meaninglessly throw my life away. For signifying the path that I should go down, you have my heartfelt gratitude, and I pledge to you my eternal loyalty."

"Umu."

To be completely honest, Diablo didn't signify a single thing. Everyone else just explained things on their own and roused her up.

—That being said, since the problem has been postponed, I guess that's good enough.

Rather than having a corpse of a State Knight lying in the room, this is probably a much better conclusion.

Rem held her hand out towards Alicia.

".....I can't forgive your betrayal so easily, but even if you were to die, I wouldn't be happy about it. I don't approve of the overthrowing of the Kingdom of Lifelia either but.....If the upper echelon of the kingdom have actions they should be convicted for, then I shall cooperate."

"Certainly, as things are now, it cannot be helped that you think of it as my own unjustified resentments. I will gather a suitable amount of proof."

Alicia grasped the hand that was held out to her.

They were having a dangerous conversation, but because of the friendly atmosphere that they had somehow created, Shera made a smiling face.

"This is great, isn't it, Diablo."

"It is."

We'll make an attack on the royal capital at once—I really am thankful that things didn't stream into that course of events.

Edelgart pouted her lips, looking uninterested.

Krum, maybe because she woke up in the middle of the night, looked a bit sleepy.

Suddenly, Diablo noticed small eyes gazing at him from the crevice of the wall and ceiling. It was a small grey animal.

It was the mouse again.

Diablo got irritated.

"Tsk.....A mere mouse sneaking about. How about I just blow you up along with the ceiling....."

Of course, he wasn't serious, but he turned one hand towards the rat.

Maybe because it understood words, it panickedly withdrew. And then just as he thought that things had finished with that, that mouse screamed its death throes.

—What is that!?

Did something, exist in there!?

The corpse of the mouse that was twisted and crushed fell to the floor.

A black, viscous liquid slimily spilled down from the crevice of the wall and ceiling.

## Part 6

"Kukuku.....To think that my 《Shadow Diving》 would be noticed.....As I thought, you are no ordinary Magician –degozaruna!"<sup>[1]</sup>

When the black viscous liquid that looked like coal tar accumulated on the floor, it rose up. That black mass that was about the size of a child—changed into the shape of a person.

It had black clothes and a katana on its back.

Its mouth was covered by an iron mask, so its facial expression couldn't be grasped.

That appearance was, it was truly that which came from Nippon, or rather, from Japan.

—A ninja!? A ninja, why!?

Everyone other than Diablo showed unrest by the strangely dressed opponent that had suddenly appeared.

Shera, who had sharp senses, was especially surprised.

"I, I didn't know he was here at all!? Diablo, you're amazing!?"

Of course, Diablo was also surprised, but with the Demon King role play that was deeply ingrained into him, he maintained his completely placid attitude.

"Hmph.....Who are you?"

"Being His Majesty's eyes and ears, I am one that becomes His sword –degozaru."

Alicia bit at these words.

"That is not possible! That should be the duty of the State Knights. I have never seen a suspiciously dressed State Knight like you before!"

"Kukuku.....I am amazed that you could spout that despite having said that you would overthrow the Kingdom of Lifelia. I am no decoration like that of those State Knights, I am a shinobi that secretly maneuvers in the shadows for the sake of the monarch—by the name of Kuzukage"

MMORPG Cross Reverie is based off of European style fantasy, but there were ninja costumes as joke equipment. There were also Samurai, as well as Western Gunmen.

He thought that it was limited to the game, but to think that it existed here as

well.....This felt too loose from the world view.

Rem and Shera were suspicious of him.

"Wh, what is this person!?"

"A strange appearance!"

—As I thought, this seems to be unfamiliar equipment in this world.

Diablo readied his 《Staff of Tenma》.

The distance between them was less than five steps. Going by the ninja blade that he carried on his back, he was probably a Warrior-type. Diablo was at a disadvantage in terms of fighting location and starting position, but he couldn't back down here.

"Hmph, putting aside that I have seen something unusual.....So you are the Lifelia King's spy. I cannot allow you to go back just like this."

"Kukuku.....That is the same for me. Now that you have seen this appearance, I cannot allow you to live –degozaru."

"You damned fool, you should open your mouth after considering the situation."

"Situation? One traitor, three demi-humans, and two Demonic Beings.....These are no more than numbers before my ninjutsu –gozaranu."

"Hmph, who said that it was a problem of numbers?"

"Hohou?"

"Towards this Demon King Diablo, “I cannot allow you to live”, you say? Know your place, you miscellaneous soldier."

"Kukuku.....What a pleasant demi-human. Allow me to teach you which one of us is a miscellaneous soldier."

Kuzukage's figure disappeared.

—Teleporation!?

The opponent ran past with enough speed to make him think that.

With a \*Puhn!\*, blood spurt out from Diablo's right arm. The upper arm portion of 《The Hollow of Jet Black》 was cut.

At the opposite side of the room, the sound of the ninja blade being sheathed was made.

"Nin"

Kuzukage had two fingers erect in front of his mouth.

Diablo turned around and glared at the enemy.

—He's, considerably fast.

If it's just in terms of speed, he was greater than Feudal Lord Galford. Even so, Diablo couldn't show any timidity.

"What? Was that all?"

"Do not prattle. There is no way that a mere Magician could keep up with my movements!"

Once again, Kuzukage ran.

This time, Diablo's left arm was cut even deeper than before. Furthermore, he returned and did another attack.

Kicking off the wall, kicking off the ceiling, he freely ran about the room, swinging his blade.

Diablo's injuries steadily increased.

His blood was dripping onto the floor.

"Fuhahahaha! How is it, Magician! This is the power of a Shinobi!!"

Diablo stuck out the 《Staff of Tenma》.

It bashed into the face of the quipping Kuzukage.

"Gobubeh!?"

He was blown away.

Right before his back banged against the wall, Kuzukage just barely corrected his posture and landed on the wall.

He then got down onto the floor.

The mask in front of his mouth was crushed and fell. With a \*buwah\*, a nosebleed gushed out, and dripped onto the floor. It was black blood that looked like coal tar.

Diablo shrugged his shoulders.

"So? When will you teach me "which one of us is the miscellaneous soldier", miscellaneous soldier?"

With a \*giri\*, Kuzukage ground his teeth.

"You mean to say that a mere Magician was able to see it!? My 《Shadow Running》!?"

"It would seem that you are misunderstanding something. I am sure that I said it, I am not a Magician. I am a Demon King of another world!"

—Fast is fast, but the standard countermeasure against Magicians is the bow and arrow. Compared to rapidly fired bows, it was bit slower.

No matter how fast it was, he could at least see through a Warrior-type's charge attack. If he didn't have at least that amount of reaction speed, he wouldn't have been able to fight against Archer-type Players.

—Though, if his movements were more complex, the counterattack would have been difficult.

In truth, he wanted to use magic, but against an opponent that was this fast, it was too dangerous to be in a stiffened state. At the very least, he wanted to fire it off on a battlefield that was outside.

Kuzukage swung his arm.

"《Flying Kunai》!!"

Of all things, the one that he made the target of the attack was Krum.

The diamond shaped edged tools that looked like the tips of a spear flew, and they aimed at her forehead.

Making a high-pitched \*Ka—n!\* sound, the kunai were repelled.

Kuzukage's eyes went wide open.

"Nwhat!?"

Krum glared at him.

"You.....To think that you would throw things at Maou, you have some nerve — nanoda. How about I teach you what true fear is."

A black lightning bolt coiled about in her small hand. Was it magic? Was it a special action?

Before Krum fired off some kind of attack—Edelgart, who was burning with anger, charged at him.

"Doing that to Demon King-sama! You, will kill! 《Sacrifice Charge》!!"

It was a martial art that fired using a lance. Since she was currently unarmed, she stuck out her fist.

Although it grazed his cheek, Kuzukage twisted his body and avoided it.

"GUUuUuUo—!?"

"Charge at him, 《Aslau》!!"

A gigantic bull that possessed three horns—the one that made the summoned beast charge at him was Rem.

Prior to Kuzukage's escape from that at almost the same time, three arrows were fired. So this was the Archer-type's martial art 《Triangle Shot》.

It was Shera.

They had thought that Shera had excelled as a bow user since long ago, but to think that she could even use martial arts.....

"Injuring Diablo, and aiming at Krum-chan! That's unforgivable!"

Although the attacks were dodged by Kuzukage no matter what it was, for Diablo, it had bought plenty of time.

—I can't get used to group battles where I have allies, but it's true that it's easier when there is a vanguard.

His magic was completed.

Diablo turned the 《Staff of Tenma》 towards Kuzukage.

"I am not so soft hearted as to value the life of an opponent that attacked with the intent to kill, you know? Regret the fact that you opposed a Demon King in the realm of the dead! 《Burst Rain》!!"

A magic with a narrow range could be evaded by a fast enemy.

This was a ranged magic that fired several fireballs.

Kuzukage opened a scroll.

"《Concealing Water》.....!!"

A wall of water appeared in front of the enemy, but something like that didn't matter. Countless fireballs plunged into it in succession, making the water boil and change into steam.

It was easily penetrated.

A fireball seized Kuzukage, who was on the other side of the wall of water.

They hit him one after the other.

"Oooooooooo—————!?"

The figure of the ninja crumbled. It changed into a black viscous liquid like that of coal tar.

The 《Burst Rain》 pulverized Kuzukage, and incidentally scattered the wall that was behind him as well.

"Hmph....."

Hitting the floor with his staff, Diablo glared at the place that the enemy was at. The wall had disappeared, and a black viscous liquid was scattered about on the burnt floor.

A cold sweat went down along his spine.

—Did I get him!?

Behind him, the door was knocked on.

The voice of the inn's poster girl came.

"Dear cus~tomer? As expected, you're being a bit of a bother to the neighbors☆"

Before he could make a response, the door was opened.

A Pantherian young lady that was wearing maid clothes had a sparkling smile, and looked at the room that had a wall blown away.

An oni had descended.

An oni by the name of a large claim for damages.

**Translator's Notes:**

[1] It uses sessha to refer to itself.

## Part 7

Going \*nikkori\*, the inn's poster girl—Mei expressed a smile.

"Dear cus~tomer? It becomes troubling when a wall disappears☆"

She is smiling, but it felt as if the characters 『gogogogogogo.....』<sup>[1]</sup> could be seen at her back.



She was unmistakably angry.

Well, if a wall of the inn was scattered away, it's only natural for her to be angry.

Rem lowered her head.

".....We are sorry.....There is a reason for all of this."

"No, it's fine. It's alright. Mei-chan, is a girl that can be used to something like this, and this is the third time for you customers, right?"

".....We will pay for the reparations."

The first time, the first store was destroyed by a Demonic Being. It seemed that the country helped in this one.

And then, the second time, a wall was destroyed by Adventurers. Naturally, the claim went to the guys that broke it.

However, this time, it seems that it was a spy of the king. On top of that, the opponent was pulverized with magic. They probably had no choice but to pay for it themselves.

Alicia stepped forward.

"I truly apologize that things have turned into this sort of situation. I feel that this may not be enough but....."

She took out a small pendant from pocket of her clothes. It had a scarlet gem attached to it.

Mei received it, and checked it with the light of the candlestick that she held.

"Nn~, it looks like the gem is genuine, but I don't think that this will be enough ~☆"

"Y, yes."

As expected of the daughter of a noble, Alicia had a large amount of money on her, but when it came to repairing a partially destroyed building, the amount of money needed was in a different league.

With the economic strength of Diablo's group, they could do nothing about it. Even under normal standards, they were in the red with the costs of Krum's biscuits.

Rem talked sounding as if she were groaning.

".....This is worrisome. If we don't pay up, we will most likely be expelled from the inn. Since Faltra City prohibits sleeping outdoors within the city in order to maintain public order, we will also have to leave the city....."

"What!?"

".....Not just that, the police might be called. If that were to happen—Ah!"

Rem noticed their blunder and opened her eyes wide.

Diablo also noticed too late.

At almost the same time, Mei was astonished and raised a scream.

"Nigyah!? Th, those girls are.....!?"

What lied at the end of her gaze was, Edelgart.

—What a huge blunder!

Because various troublesome things had occurred, the coping of it was delayed. Something like a Demonic Being being in the town, that was something that one couldn't shut their eyes to.

Because she was in her sleep-wear, Krum's tail was exposed.

Mei stepped back.

"C, could it be.....A Demonic Being —nya!? Is it because M, Mei-chan is too cute that she looks delicious and you're going to eat her!?"

"....."

Edelgart stepped forward. She held her hand out.

—Oi, she couldn't be planning on killing her, could she!?

He remember that she bisected the bodies of five bandits for the reason of "being witnessed".

He was going to hurriedly try and stop her but.....There was no need for that. What was held in Edelgart's hand wasn't a weapon, but a large drop of a jewel. It had a size around that of a coin.

"This~, is.....needed? Have, lots."

"Nya!?"

"It sparkles, is pretty. With this~.....Demonic Beings, barter, for things like weapons and food."

So there is currency even among Demonic Beings.

No, is it a bartering system through the use of jewels?

Even Rem and Shera's eyes were shining.

".....A, amazing.....What a large and radiant diamond."

"It's so pretty! It's so pretty!"

"As expected of Edelgart-sama."

Alicia smiled.

Mei, whose face had frozen up in fear just a second ago, received the jewel and

gazed at it with a serious face.

"A, amazing –nya.....This can't be evaluated unless it is done at a specialist shop.....But it certainly does have enough worth to rebuild a run-down inn from scratch and still have change leftover –nya....."

After she plainly muttered that, she went \*hah\*, and returned to her usual business smile.

"Ahah☆ Dear customers, be at ease in your stay here –nya! Ah, that's right, until the wall is fixed, another room will be prepared for you☆"

That was a magnificent change in attitude.

Rem was surprised and asked.

"Is, is that alright!? These people are Demonic Beings though.....!?"

"As long as money is paid, they are customers～"

".....Are you not scared? Even though you had received a Demonic Being's attack not too long ago."

"Rem-chan, you see.....The thing called business, it's a life risking thing, you know? Kira (sparkle)☆"

It seems that the management of 《Relief》 is surprisingly tough. This probably means that living is hard for anyone.

Mei turned her sparkling business smile towards Edelgart.

"Ehehe☆ Since we also serve breakfast, come to the dining hall once it's morning, 'kay☆"

"Got.....it."

"Ah, but, Demonic Beings, what do they eat? Things like frogs?"

"Edelgart～, likes.....fish."

Come to think of it, since Krum's favorite food was biscuits, their palate might not be all that different from the Races.

"OK☆ We'll prepare you some fish!"

"Also.....Wild boar, and deer....."

"Say everything you like!"

"Cat"

"Hii～～～!?"

Not just Mei, even Rem shrank away.

So it feels like she'll eat any wild animals that are in the forest.

Shera became worried.

"But, Edelgart-san, won't it be bad if you are seen by the other customers?"

With a \*pin\*, Mei's index finger went up.

"It's fine ☆ Leave that to Mei-chan -nya!"

A few minutes later—

Diablo was surprised.

"Y, you! Were you actually a Magician!?"

She used makeup techniques that were magnificent enough to make him say that.

Mei puffed up her chest in pride with a "how do you like that" face.

"How's that -nya! Girls transform, you know ☆"

"Oo—.....?"

Edelgart's skin that was lined with small scales had become completely smooth and glossy. Her legs were in black tights, and her hands were covered with white gloves.

For her lizard-like pupils, on top of wearing thick glasses, her forelocks hung down and hid them.

She awkwardly said the words that she was taught.

"W, welcome ~, back? Goshujin-sama?"

Krum was made to wear an idol-like outfit.

Since she had transparent-like skin that had no need for makeup, eyeshadow was put on her eyelids, and eyeliner was put on the underside. With a hat, her horns were made to look like decorations.

In order to hide her tail, she wore a parasol-like skirt.

Krum was in high spirits and made a sideways peace sign.

"Kira kira (Sparkle sparkle) -nanoda ☆"

"Eheh ☆ Kira kira -da nya!"

### **Translator's Notes:**

[1] Gogogo is a sound effect in Japan that represents an ominous aura.

## Part 8

The next day—

Alicia headed towards the Royal Capital.

Although the King's spy, Kuzukage, was pulverized, there was no telling what kind of information was transmitted. It was dangerous.

However, her resolution was strong.

"For Diablo-sama's sake as well, I will definitely find evidence of the King's misgovernment, and investigate the Royal Capital's war potential and layout."

"U, umu.....Be sure to make your life the maximum priority. For I am not in any rush. Rather, I have recently been thinking that a slow life might be good too....."

"In the overthrowing of the Lifelia Kingdom, is it!"

—There is no slow life like that!

Although he made a retort in his mind, he expressed a fearless smile in a Demon King-like way and saw her off.

After that, Edelgart went to the bakery Peter as Krum's attendant, and was really into the fish sandwich.

A fish sandwich was where a freshwater fish was deep fried and inserted into bread.

To be completely honest, it was a menu choice that wasn't all that popular but.....the palate of Demonic Beings might be peculiar.

"Ama, zing.....Similar! To Demon King-sama's conferred~, magic power! Bliss? Bliss!"

This was a compliment, but they were also words that the guys at Peter couldn't be allowed to hear.

Being deeply moved by the taste of other cuisine as well, Edelgart became completely engrossed by the meals of the Races.

Even with Krum, she seemed to have recognized that there were biscuits from places other than the bakery, and that there were confectioneries similar to it. The two of them made a hobby of trying food at various restaurants.

"Listen well! Maou has discovered a new truth –noda! A path towards the supreme was opened by means of a jet black power!"

While listening to that speech, Shera nodded.

"Yup, yup, chocolate biscuits are delicious too."

"It's supreme –nanoda! I will buy more –noda! I will buy it all –nanoda!"

"You can only have 500 F worth of snacks a day, you know?"

"Mumumu.....Chocolate is the supreme, but how expensive it is is where it is no good!"

That was a truth that really reeked of the common people.

Cocoa seemed to be a treasure in Faltra City, so chocolate had a price that would make it be called an extravagance.

Incidentally, Diablo thought that cheese bread was the ultimate food. The surface was crispy and had syrupy cheese and tomato inside.

Such a peaceful life continued for about half a month.

# Interlude

Within a forest—

A young lady was running.

She was out of breath, and came out from the gap between the trees.

Her silk dress got caught on leaves and branches which tore it to pieces.

Because they were hard to run in, she kicked off her high heels. She stepped on pebbles with her bare feet, making her face distort from the pain. Blood flowed out.

The one that was ahead of her was a female Holy Knight—Tolia.

"This way, Lumachina-sama! Once we get out of this forest, we will be able to reach the town!"

"Y, yes!"

"ツ!? Watch out!!"

The ground burst open.

Being held in the arms of the female Holy Knight Tolia right when things had become perilous, the young lady—Lumachina was saved.

"Hau!?"

"Kuh.....S, so, they've already caught up....."

Tolia drew her sword.

Lumachina raised a scream.

An enormous worm appeared out from the ground. It had blocked their path.

Being emerald green and having a slimy epithelium, it had a mouth that looked like it could swallow a person whole. It looked like it had neither eyes nor a nose, but it accurately grasped their location.

"Lumachina-sama, please don't leave my side!"

"E, even I can fight!"

She tightly grasped her holy symbol.

Tolia smiled, and nodded.

"Yes.....I leave the healing to you. Though I don't intend on taking any negligence against an opponent of this degree.....!!"

She brandished her sword, and went forward.

The ground that she stepped on collapsed.

"Wha!?"

What was at the bottom of the ground that opened up like a pitfall, was a gigantic mouth.

—A large scale worm!?

Apart from the one in front of their eyes, it seemed that a second worm set up a trap.

"Tolia!"

Lumachina called out to her.

The female Holy Knight struck her long sword at the new worm that appeared. The silver blade cut up the monster's mouth.

However, in defiance of that damage, the enormous mouth closed down on her.

"Uwah!?"

The lower half of Tolia's body was eaten by the worm. Her armor was crushed, her flesh was torn, and her bones were broken.

"KUAAaAaAAAAaah—ツ!?"

Just like that, she was dragged underground.

Lumachina desperately frantically her hand out.

"Grab on, Tolia!"

However, the female Holy Knight did not grab that hand of hers. After all, if she were to hang onto her, both of them would probably be eaten by the worm.

"R, run away! Lumachina-sama!"

Those became the final words of the loyal female Holy Knight Tolia. Her figure disappeared into the dark, dark bottom of the hole.

".....Tolia."

Lumachina's shoulders were trembling as she gazed at the gapingly wide open hole. She could no longer hear the voice of the female Holy Knight. Only the subterranean rumbling was transmitted to her.

That and, footsteps.

They slowly approached her from behind.

"Ara ara.....Might our game of tag already be over, Lumachina-sama?"

"Kuh....."

Getting up, she turned around.

The figure that appeared from deep in the forest, was a “man” wrapped in Holy Knight armor—Geibalt. He had a tall stature and a muscular body type, and a long sword hung at his waist, but it wasn’t drawn.

Geibalt was a Summoner.

"Aran? What could have ever happened Tolia? Ah, could it be, was she eaten up by my 《Trap Worm》? Nfufu.....In the end, she was just a woman. Could it be that the only thing splendid about her was her pedigree, oh dear."[\[1\]](#)

He was a man that spoke in a strange way.

Lumachina thrust her holy symbol out and asked.

"Are you able to swear to Kami-sama and declare that your own actions are righteous!?"

"I don't know? But the big-wigs of the Church will give me money, won't they? Cosmetics and dresses cost money too, you know."

"Such infidelity.....!!"

"Ufufu, I am quite devout, you know? I only believe in a Kami-sama that gives me money! Though it's because the God that you revere is powerless that I'm not scared."

"Did you say that Kami-sama is powerless!?"

"Well, I do think that your miraculous healing and prayers for good harvest are amazing but.....Fights are all about strength."

Holy Knights are people that work for the sake of the Church, and they normally have a deep faith for Kami-sama. However, it was clear that piety was nonexistent in him.

Lumachina tightly grasped her holy symbol.

"Kuh.....Kami-sama....."

She knelt down.

"Nn? Ahaha, are you praying at a time like this? That I'll vanish from some divine punishment? Kuhahah, that is way too funny! This is why you religionists are so! Ahyahya.....Gehoh! Gehoh! Uhi~ Are you trying to make me laugh myself to death!?"

"O god in the heavens, may this voice reach you, and destroy this evil one. Bring about a purifying fire onto the earth, and save those that believe in you. ...."

Lumachina's body was tinged with light.

However, nothing happened to Geibalt.

"That was so pointless. The one that ordered me to get rid of you, Pishas<sup>[2]</sup>, also prayed you know? He said "this is a sacred war" or something like that.....In the end, God is pretty much something like that. Only a number of people have God."

It was the name of someone that Lumachina knew.

Holding down her feeling of "—To think that it was him!?", she continued to pray.

"O god, there is one that cannot hear your voice. Please display your great power upon the earth and illuminate it with your righteous light. Like how flowers bloom in a field, like how fish swim in a river....."

Geibalt came looking down on the kneeling and praying Lumachina. Those eyes were dull and cloudy.

"Nfufu.....What beautiful skin.....It makes me really jealous. Enough to make me want to tear it off!"

He took out a crystal.

He dropped it at his feet.

A \*kiin\* sound was made.

It was a Summoned Beast.

It was a Plant-type Summoned Beast. When it settled down into the ground, it changed into a large mushroom that was about twice as large as Lumachina.

From around the base of it, tentacles sinuously grew out.

Continuously praying, Lumachina's body was engulfed in light.

Geibalt frowned.

"Th, this is....."

—Is this one of those genuine miracles? It's quite something.

Someone that could bring about such a phenomenon that is visible to the eye just by praying, at the very least from what Geibalt knew, there existed no other.

There were no doubts that Lumachina possessed the outstanding power of miracles. She was believed to be "the daughter of God" by many believers.

It wasn't hard to understand why the female Holy Knight Tolia betrayed the top brass of the Church and try to let this young lady go free.

"But orders are orders. And I've already accepted the money after all?"

Geibalt licked his lips.

Above all, breaking a young lady special enough to be evaluated as the daughter of God—He became excited from such a dark desire.

"Go and do it, my darling 《Beast Mushroom》!"

The Plant-type Summoned Beast extended out thin tentacles that grew out from its roots.

"Kyaaa—!?"

Lumachina's wrists and ankles were grabbed by the thin tentacles, and her body was suspended in midair.

Geibalt became aroused and his breath became rough.

"Gufufufu.....That's good! Just like that! Go and tear off those bothersome clothes!"

"Wh, what are you doing!?"

"If there is a God in this world, he must be a prejudice shitty bastard. You were born pretty, and I have a tough man's body.....It really is unfair. That's why, I'm thinking of defiling that body of yours into a messy wreck and sending it back to heaven."

"Eh? Defile?"

"Ahahaha! Using a Summoned Beast! It seems to be surprisingly good, you know—!?"

"Hii!? Sto.....Don't do, something so stupid!"

"Ara, that's good, that reaction. It's so stimulating."

Tentacles were able to slip inside of Lumachina's dress. Her sensitive parts that were usually covered with clothes were rubbed by tentacles, and her body stiffened with a start.

"Hyah!?"

The muscles along Lumachina's spine trembled from the disgusting feeling.

However, since her limbs were detained and she couldn't move, there was no way for her to use attack magic. She could no longer do anything.

Finally, the 《Beast Mushroom》's tentacles pulled her dress and cut it to pieces.

"Noooo——ツ!!"

"Ufufufufufufu.....It starts from here you know? You'll get penetrated by the tentacles. To think the chastity of a young Holy lady would be taken by my Summoned Beast, I • can't • get • enough • of • it!!"

Geibalt raised a vulgar laugh.

Lumachina's mind went blank from the first disgrace she received in her live, and tears surfaced to the corners of her eyes.

"St, stop.....St.....op it....."

"You've got talent for being a prostitute, don't you. If you make a face like that, you'll be able to seduce any man."

"I had no intention to do such a thing!?"

"Well, your first and last partner will be a Summoned Beast though! Now then, go do her, my darling 《Beast Mushroom》!!"

"D.....Don't.....Kami-sama.....Kami-samaaaaaa————!!"

### **Translator's Notes:**

[1] I'm not sure if I'm portraying it well enough but he talks like an anime muscular okama.

[2] Original: ビショ入. I am willing to take better names.

# Chapter 2: Trying Out Flying Through the Sky

# Part 1

A very sunny early afternoon—

Diablo extended his leg out a bit and stepped into the 《Kohigashi Forest》. He was further east than where Shera made her contract with her Summoned Beast before.

This time, only Rem and Shera were accompanying him.

No matter how disguised they were, he didn't want to take Krum and Edelgart, who had no business here, along through the gate.

—It's been awhile since we acted with just the three of us.

At the inn, they were together with Krum and Edelgart, and as usual, Diablo didn't have any quests that were big enough to make him go out, and it was all left to Rem and Shera.

They came out to an open grassland slope.

A gentle wind blowed.

There was a grassy scent.

Going \*U~~~~n!\*, Shera raised both arms and stretched out.

"This place feels so good!"

".....I agree."

Rem nodded. The two never ceased to quarrel over things, but now they got along and smiled.

"Ehehe, Rem, you feel the same way."

"Fufu.....It is pretty rare though."

"Makes you want to sunbath in the nude, doesn't it~"

"Fuah—!? I don't, you perverted Elf!"

"Ehh!? There's no point if you sunbath wearing clothes, right!?"

"To begin with, your way of thinking of stripping outdoors is strange!"

"It's not embarrassing because it's sunbathing, you know!?"

"Nude is nude! Unbelievable!"

With just their races and rearing being different, the gap in their lifestyle customs seemed to be deeply vast.

Diablo spotted a decayed tree that collapsed on the ground.

"Fumu, I suppose this is good enough."

Shera clung onto him.

"Diablo, what do you think!? Sunbathing with wearing clothes is just weird, right!?"

Rem glared at him with reproachful eyes.

".....Diablo, please tell it to her. Something like undressing outdoors, she does not have enough of a sense of danger."

"You two really do like to fight. From here on, I am going to test out a new magic. Do not get in my way."

Seeming to have forgotten the quarrel that they were having up until now, both Rem and Shera now had faces full of interest.

".....And what kind might it be?"

"By new, what kind is it!?"

"It is 《Flight Magic》. However, because I reflect all magic, I have to make an object the target and try to ride that."

In the MMORPG Cross Reverie, that sort of thing wasn't possible. However, the application range of magic in this other world was vast. It was worth testing. There was the possibility that the result of the experiment wouldn't turn out well.

But, their relationship wouldn't break from just a failed experiment—their relationship had accumulated enough to make him think that. That is why he explained his intentions ahead of time.

In the game, Diablo possessed equipment that was bestowed with Flight-type Magic, but since he was inside a dungeon when he was summoned to this other world, he didn't have it on.

His other equipment was within his 《Warehouse》.

In the MMORPG Cross Reverie, there was a system called the 《Warehouse》. Since it wasn't something that was handheld, it couldn't be used immediately at one's destination, but it was possible to retain an enormous amount of items with it.

A countless number of super-rare items whose acquisition method were unknown even in this world were stored within Diablo's 《Warehouse》.

—When I try to remember the game's settings, it probably should be within my dungeon's treasury.

In Cross Reverie, a peculiar plot of land would be granted to Players that raised

military gains that went over a fixed amount. Diablo constructed that peculiar space into a Demon King-like dungeon.

Its location was in the western direction, and was close to a town in the Demon King territory.

He thought about it before but—it might be good to try and search for it at least once.

Thinking about it normally, it was probably reasonable to come to the conclusion that “only I was summoned to this other world from the game”. However, his own dungeon might exist, is the reason that Diablo thought of. It seemed that the 《Demon King of the Brain Enkvalos》 existed in this world just like the game. It was already defeated, but it is unknown who subjugated it. The first one to defeat Enkvalos in Cross Reverie was Diablo.

He had done it in the game, but there was also the possibility that it bestowed an effect in this world.

He didn’t know the reason behind it.

However, to begin with, since the paranormal event of “being summoned to another world with the appearance of his game character” had occurred, it wouldn’t be strange if “the dungeon he created in the game existed” as well.

Putting his speculations aside, he returned his focus to his original objective. Diablo touched fallen decayed tree with the tip of the 《Staff of Tenma》.

The range was through contact.

And then, the time it took until it activated was excessively long.

Putting it honestly, it wasn’t a magic that could be used in the middle of battle.

This was exclusively used when moving about the map.

In Cross Reverie, when Flight-type means of travel—whether it be through magic, through sky flying Summoned Beasts, or through that sort of item—is unusable, there was a step that wouldn’t allow one to advance ahead.

In other words, obtaining a means of travel was a test for beginners.

—To think I would experience this test a second time.

Diablo chanted the magic.

"Change your location according to my will—《Adzet》"

The decayed tree slowly rised up.

It unsteadily shook, as if it were being hung up through the use of a crane.

Rem and Shera raised their voices.

"It, it's floating!?"

"Fuwah, amazing! It's floating! It's floating!!"

".....To think that this magic existed."

"It's amazing, isn't it—. Incredible!"

".....Diablo really exceeds our common knowledge quite easily."

"Ama—zing!"

It was embarrassing for them to be that astonished. Above all, the main part was going to happen from here.

"You're in the way. You two, step back a bit."

Since it was dangerous, he asked the two of them to keep at a distance.

Diablo placed a hand on the decayed tree that floated at waist height.

The tattered surface crumbled.

It might be more rotten than he thought.

He climbed onto the decayed tree.

In the game, Diablo was a level 150 Adventurer. Since he possessed physical strength that separated from that of an ordinary person at that level, it was surprisingly easy.

It shook.

"Uu.....!?"

Since this was a magic experiment, there would probably be some failures. That was fine. He didn't think that he would lose any trust from the two of them from a failed experiment.

However, he wanted to avoid an unsightly result.

Slipping off from the floating decayed tree, or half rotating the moment he got on, those sort of skit-like displays would be too comical.

Diablo carefully took his balance.

It was unstable, but he was somehow able to stand on top of the decayed tree without falling.

—Alright! It's floating!

Since it was only at waist height, as things were, it wasn't "flight" but "floating" though.....But even so, being suspended away from the ground was enough for Rem and Shera to receive a shock.

The experiment was a success!

Diablo made a fist pump in his mind.

Nonetheless, its usefulness was lacking like this. There wasn't much of a difference from standing on top of a rock. A horse was probably better.

"I guess I'll try raising it up a bit more."

He tried moving the floating decayed tree in the air. First was to move it to a slightly higher spot—so that it would be at a level where he wouldn't die even if he were to fall, he tried raising it by about three meters.

It slowly raised up. It unsteadily shook, but it wasn't enough to make him fall.

—Can it still keep on going?

It climbed even higher.

Even if it was obstructed by the foliage of the many trees, the view from a high place was fresh and enjoyable. It felt as if he was viewing things from an observation deck or a ferris wheel.

"Ooh.....This is good."

"Waah! Diablo, ama—zing!"

Shera was in high spirits and looked like a child.

Rem looked worried.

".....Um, since this is the first trial, please don't overdo it."

"I know."

However, as he grew accustomed to it, the slight shaking made it feel as if it were a boat floating on the water's surface, it instead felt pretty good.

It wasn't bad as an amusement activity. Though, if it was going to be used as a means of travel, he would need to be able to move it more freely.

It rose even higher. When it got even higher than the surrounding trees, the wind became stronger.

It was easy for him to lose balance whenever it moved in any direction, so he was pretty nervous.

Was moving up and down like an elevator in a place with little wind the only safe thing to do? It looked like using this as a transport would be accompanied by danger.

—It would be a relief if a lifeline were to be attached, but something like a Demon King that goes with safety first.....That's different from my image of Demon Kings.

"Nn?"

When he casually looked to the east, a part of the forest shined.

"What's that? A light?"

At first, it was a tiny spot, but then it started to extend straight up to the sky. It pierced through the clouds, and went even higher.

"C, could it be.....that's.....is that magic power!?"

The magic power turned into a pillar of light and pierced the sky.

Shera seemed to have noticed as well, as she started to make a fuss. Since Rem couldn't see magic power, she tilted her head.

Diablo once again confirmed the location.

—Is that a bit too far to walk?

Since it would be slower than normal after advancing through the forest, it would most likely take more than an hour on foot.

It was still unstable, but he decided to try going there with Flight Magic just like this.

Diablo called out to the two that were on the ground.

"Rem! Shera! I will go check things out just like this!"

"Eh~~~!? Take me along—!!"

".....Let's do as he says, Shera.....We would become a hindrance if something were to happen."

"Pu—"

—Sorry. Since I'm in the middle of practice, it would be dangerous if a girl were to get on and I lost my balance.

"Fuh, go and head back to town ahead of me!"

Manipulating the decayed tree with Flight Magic, he approached the pillar of light.

Since he should no longer be seen by Rem and Shera, he got on his stomach and clung onto the decayed tree.

"So scary....."

It should have been at the speed of a bicycle, but it shook a lot.

If he wanted to, he should have been able to raise the speed even more, but he would certainly be thrown off.

—To be flying through the sky in another world, I thought I would be having a more pleasant reaction like "Wah~~~!! Incre~~~dible!!" with a more excited feeling but.....

That's absolutely impossible!

Holding onto the vibrating decayed tree so that he wouldn't be thrown off took all of his might.

He didn't have the leeway to look at the scenery.

It was because it was a pretty high place, but it was also because the crosswind was strong. In that case, he thought that it might be fine if he flew at a lower position but.....

It wouldn't stabilize at any height, and when he approached the standing trees, he could only come into contact with the branches.

He was somehow able to get close to the pillar of light.

—I knew it, it's magic power itself.

He was astonished.

According to Diablo's impressions, a normal Magician—Rem for example, possessed a cupful of magical power. That's why Summoned Beasts can be manipulated by using that magical power efficiently.

He himself had something like a bathtub's worth of magical power.

This pillar of light was a torrent of magical power that was many times larger than Diablo's magical power. The only thing that could release something like this was someone like Krum (Demon King Krebskrum) who has a bottomless amount of magical power.

That genuine Demon King should be eating snacks with Edelgart in town around this time.

The attribute was also different.

Krum had a Demon King-like Darkness attribute, but this pillar had a white shine, so it seemed to be of the Light attribute.

".....Just what in the world is going on?"

Diablo muttered that and brought the decayed tree close to the pillar of magical power. He looked down.

Fuh, it lost its floating power.

"Ah?"

—The effect time!? Didn't it cut off a little fast!?

"oWAAAAAAAAAAAAHHHHHHHHH—————!!"

## Part 2

Kami-samaaaa—is what he heard a girl shout out.

\*Gushari\* He crushed something gigantic.

Maybe there was something below him.

Thanks to that, Diablo was let off without receiving much damage.

At his feet, there was the familiar fallen decayed tree.

Also, there were fragments or pieces of meat of something that seemed plant-like yet animal-like scattered about.

"What is this.....Eh!?"

Casually looking to the side, Diablo doubted his own eyes.

There was an extremely beautiful girl.

Her transparent like platinum blonde hair gently waved, and her hazel eyes seemed to suck him in. Her skin was smooth enough to seem like even the skin of the Elves could compare, and her physique had an exquisite balance between mature beauty and an innocent cuteness.

Moreover, she was nude.

It seemed that she wore a dress, but it was destroyed to the point that she could pretty much be considered naked.

The beautiful girl with such an appearance was sitting on the ground. Her legs were opened and facing his way. Her hands were at her back side and supporting her upper body.

The extremely beautiful girl was almost completely naked.

—Was she sunbathing!?

There's no way that was the case.

The thin cloth that continued its final resistance gently fell, making it so that she was exposed right down to her important spot.

\*Gokuri\* Diablo made a gulp.

In a bright place like this, this was his first time seeing a “girl” right in front of him. Moreover, she was an extremely beautiful girl. Even though this was their first time meeting.

While tears came out from the corners of her eyes, she asked him a question.

".....Ka, Kami-sama.....is that you?"

So she called him “Kami-sama”. Come to think of it, he did hear her shout out "Kami-samaaaa!", didn't he?

—This is bad. Is she a girl whose head is a bit screwy!?

Just as he was being bewildered with what was going on, a man raised a shriek from behind him.

"Ahhhhhh—!? My darling 《Beast Mushroom》!?"

"Muh?"

On that guy's armor, there was a familiar crest engraved on it.

—This guy, so he's a Holy Knight.

"You, how could just suddenly fall from the sky like that!? What will you do about my darling 《Beast Mushroom》!? Even though there was only one of them!"

At Diablo's feet, the fragments of the scattered about plant-like thing vanished and turned into a darkened crystal.

It seemed to be a Summoned Beast.

"Hmph.....As if I care about your mushroom."

When he said such easily understandably hostile words, it showed that even Diablo was getting the mood.

He completely forgot the fact that he misjudged the effect time of the Flight Magic and crashed, and majestically glared at the Holy Knight.

I am the Demon King of another world, Diablo, got it! is what he was going to continue with, but the young girl's voice interrupted him.

"Kami-sama!"

"Wh, what.....?"

When he turned around, the beautiful girl was prostrating herself to him in the nude.

She was tightly grasping the holy symbol used in the Church in her hand.

"Ahh, you have finally appeared in front of me! I have always only heard your voice, and since I could not see your figure, I felt so lonely! This Lumachina Weselia, has given my prayers to you this whole time!"

"I, I don't really care but, wouldn't it be better for you to wear some clothes?"

"Eh?"

Finally, it seems that she noticed her own appearance.

She hid her breast and waist with her hands.

"Kyaaaaaahhhhh~~~~~!? D, don't look, please don't look, Kami-sama!"

Her face went bright red.

Even Diablo's cheeks went hot.

—Kami-sama she says? Is she saying that to me?

At the very least, the one that this young girl called Lumachina was prostrating to in the nude was unmistakably Diablo.

—I don't get what she means.

However, there was no mistake that she was embarrassed.

Diablo took off his mantle, the 《Curtain of Dark Clouds》, and presented it to Lumachina.

"Use this."

"ツ!? Ah, thank you very much.....To have clothes lent to me by Kami-sama.....I, I am too blessed....."

Lumachina preciousy wrapped her body with the black mantle. A so-called naked mantle. It couldn't help that that in itself was a bit erotic.

\*Han!\* The Holy Knight snorted his nose.

"Whaat God! This guy is just some vile Demon! He reeks so much that I can't stand it. At best, he just jumped down from atop the trees or something!"

"Hmph.....You're wrong. I am—"

"He is Kami-sama! I can tell! My prayers got through to heaven!"

—Girls really don't listen to what people say!

Still, did she say "prayers"?

He was preoccupied by the girl's good looks and nude body but.....

Once he gathered his senses, he saw that magical power was overflowing from the girl. Right now, it wasn't enough to create a pillar of light, but even so, a gigantic flow of magical power could be seen.

It seems that there was no mistake that that pillar of light sprung forth from this young girl called Lumachina.

"Please be careful, Kami-sama. That person called Geibalt is a sinful person unworthy of being a believer, but I estimate his abilities to be very high!"

"No, like I was saying, I am not some God....."

The Holy Knight Geibalt raised a loud voice.

"AHHH, I don't care anymore! Just as I was going to get her, you went and

crushed my darling 《Beast Mushroom》! I'm pissed off now! No playing around. I will murder the both of you!"

Diablo tilted his head.

"What is the meaning of this? I had heard that Holy Knights were envoys of the Church and killed Demon King Worshipers though? Does this one called Lumachina not have a deep faith in God?"

The girl that was hiding her body with Diablo's mantle right now, hadn't let go of only her holy symbol even when she had become naked earlier. She was deeply religious to the point of being a bit abnormal.

Geibalt laughed through his nose.

"There's no way I know about the decisions of the guys of the Church, would there!? Since I was ordered to kill her, I'll kill her! I don't need any reason other than that!"

"I see.....So it was something like that. You're no different than a mercenary."

"I'm completely different. I'm a lot more expensive!"

—So he's aware of it.

Geibalt threw a crystal at the ground.

A Summoned Beast!

A worm appeared.

"Fumu.....It's a level 60 《Hunter Worm》."

As expected of a Holy Knight. Saadra, who he fought against before, was the same, but he is on a different scale from the Adventurers in Faltra City.

However, it was no match for Diablo.

He readied the 《Staff of Tenma》.

"I need Wind for the Earth attribute. 《Aero....."

However, he wasn't able to complete the spell.

The ground underneath his feet collapsed.

"What!?"

"Kyaaaah——!?"

A gaping wide hole opened in the ground. Not only Diablo, even the young girl fell into the hole.

From the bottom of the hole, a gigantic mouth drew near.

—A level 80 《Trap Worm》!?

Moreover, a simultaneous summoning!

This Holy Knight Geibalt or whatever, despite his boorish speech and conduct, he was rather strong.

Diablo's mouth spontaneously turned into a smile.

"Don't underestimate my AGI!"

While kicking the edge of the 《Trap Worm》's open mouth and jumping, he grabbed the naked mantle young girl—Lumachina, who had fallen together with him.

She was a girl that was a bit of a pain, but as expected, it would be too pitiful to not save her and let her be eaten by the worm.

Diablo took the young girl along and broke out from the hole.

The Holy Knight Geibalt shouted.

"You're good, Demon! But with this—ツ!!"

The 《Hunter Worm》 was already approaching.

"If it weren't like this, it would be mere child's play. Burst apart! 《Aero Shredder》!"

The approaching Summoned Beast was wrapped up in a green flash, and a thunderous roar was raised.

Pieces of meat flew about.

It returned to being a darkened crystal.

Geibalt opened his eyes wide in astonishment.

"What.....in the.....world? Th, that's.....the highest grade Chemical Element Magic of the Wind attribute, isn't it!?"

"Hou, so you knew about it."

After the limit is broken through, even stronger magic can be learned though.

"Of course I know about it. There is a Holy Knight that can use it as well."

"Wasn't Chemical Element Magic weak and out of the question to you all?"

".....Yes, it's weak.....But it's different when mastered. If it's about firepower in a single attack, Chemical Element Magic exceeds all others."

"So you've studied it well."

He was a bit happy.

It seems that the guys that grew close to the level limit have reached the same assessment as the game.

"But you know what, Demon? There's no way you could fire off such extreme magic that many times, got it!? I still have a lot of Summoned Beasts!"

"Hmph.....If you're fine with something at the level of 《Aero Shredder》, I have enough leeway to fire around 100 of them, you know?"

"D, don't go making a lie like that!"

"Do not measure me by your standards, you novice."

Why is it that people decide "because they can't do something then no one else in the world can do something".

Come to think of it, even in the MMORPG Cross Reverie's strategy guide BBS, when a statement that said "since 《Bloody Dance》 can be seen, it's possible to evade" was posted, they were called a liar.

Something like that is easy!

Since Diablo was also bad at writing, he didn't make any comments but.....

To not dodge after seeing an attack that had six frames (0.1 seconds) from the start of the motion to the occurrence of the attack, how foolish.

Already begin evasion operations the moment you've already noticed the attack—deny it after you've done at least that much practice, is what he thought.

It's no good while one's fingers were doing human movements. The operations of extreme Players, an ordinary person's eyes becomes unable to keep up with them. There are robots that construct machines at a factory, but having movements with no uselessness in them like that is the ideal.

—If you want to win, then stop being human!

Diablo pointed the 《Staff of Tenma》 towards Geibalt.

"I am also busy you see.....I have no interest in keeping all of your Summoned Beasts company. The weakness of Summoners, is that you are weak against ranged attacks! 《Cross Blizzard》!!"

Two tornadoes sprung forth.

All that touched them were frozen over, and on top of that, they were smashed to pieces due to the winds.

Immediately after the standing trees were changed into ice sculptures, they were turned into very small fragments.

It was a magic that was learned at level 110. For guys that haven't broken through the limit, they probably didn't even know that it existed.

Geibalt grimaced.

"Wh, wha.....What in the world is thaaaattttt——ツ!?"

The fragments of ice fluttered about, and brought about a wondrous spectacle.  
The enemy's scream was drowned out by the tornadoes' winds.  
There was only the rumbling sound of the wind.  
That wind also started to settle.

The ground had been frozen over, and not even a single standing tree was left in the area around them.

Even the terrain had changed but.....The Holy Knight was probably defeated.  
The young lady Lumachina, who was watching from behind, shivered.

—Shoot! Even though there was a girl with only a single mantle here, I went and used such a cold magic!

"O, oi, are you alright!?"

"Yes. Kami-sama.....To be saved by you.....I....."

"Hold on a minute, I'll say this clearly—I am not a God! I am the Demon King of another world, Diablo!"

"Eh? B, but....."

"I am a Demon King."

".....Even though.....Kami-sama's soul, is so pure....."

\*Fura\* Lumachina crumbled down.

"Eh!? Oi!?"

He caught her in his arms at the last moment.

She was breathing.

—So she's just sleeping?

He didn't understand the reason behind it, but since she released enough magical power that it looked like a pillar of light, it was only natural for her to be exhausted.

"I suppose.....there's no way I could just leave her here."

Wild animals appear in the 《Kohigashi Forest》 as well. If he were to leave her here, she would be food for wolves or bears.

Reluctantly, Diablo decided to carry her to town.

It was at times like this that Flight Magic seemed convenient, but even though she had a small build, it was impossible for him to do it while carrying someone.

The memory of making a blunder and falling was also fresh.

He decided to go steadily and walk.

After Diablo's group had taken their leave—

The frozen ground caved in.

A hole opened up.

What appeared was a 《Trap Worm》.

\*Peh\* It spat something out.

What tumbled onto the ground, was the Holy Knight Geibalt.

"Ueeegh~~~~! The inside of a Worm, stinnnnkssss~~~~~!! That damned Demon, I'll crush his balls!"

Also, there was another—

She looked unconscious and was covered in blood, but the female Holy Knight had also tumbled onto the frozen ground.

## Part 3

"Tolia!!"

\*Gaba\* Lumachina sprang up.

She saw a dream where the female Holy Knight that allowed her to escape had fallen into a hole in the ground.

—Nuh-uh, that wasn't a dream.

Lumachina turned her gaze towards her own body. She was wearing a light brown hemp one piece that is often seen in towns. She was secretly relieved that she wasn't naked.

And then, she surveyed her surroundings.

It was an unfamiliar room.

There were inorganic stone walls, and a wooden board ceiling that looked like it would leak. On the wall, the flame of a candle swayed, and that was the only light source.

Appearing to already be nighttime, the outside that could be seen from the small window was pitch dark.

If there wasn't anyone else in the room, she probably would have thought that she was placed into a prison, and would have felt anxious.

In the vicinity of the bed, there were two girls—an Elf and a Pantherian.

The Elf brought her face near.

Her chest was excessively big, but going by her long ears and her countenance, she should be an Elf.

"Waah, she woke up! Thank goodness—"

".....Are you alright? We did some medical treatment to the gashes on your legs, but are there any other places that hurt?"

Possessing black ears, tail, and hair, she was a rare black panther type Pantherian. She looked at her face with a worried look.

"Eh? Ah, erm....."

The two of them were beautiful, or rather, really cute.

However, the iron rings on their necks—She was worried about the things that were most likely 《Slave Chokers》 that were attached to them.

The young Pantherian girl uneasily asked her some questions.

".....Could it be that your memories are in disorder? What is your name?"

"My name is....."

Her absentminded head rapidly became clear.

"Ah, it is Lumachina Weselia. It's alright, I properly remember it."

".....Thank goodness. I am Rem Galeu. As you can see, I am a Pantherian, and I work as an Adventurer."

"And I'm Shera! I'm an Elf!"

".....Lumachina, this is a bit sudden but.....there are a lot of things I would like for you to explain but.....above all, there is one important question I have for you."

Since Rem's expression was all too serious, Lumachina became nervous.

"Wh, what might that be?"

".....Diablo didn't do anything strange to you, did he? More specifically, things like touching this and that, or pinching you, or licking you, or doing, um.....

\*mutter mutter\* with his fingers....."

As she was talking, Rem blushed, and her voice became quieter.

Lumachina also looked like fire would come out from her face.

She properly remembered that she was saved from a dangerous spot while she was completely naked.

"B, by Diablo, do you mean the Kami-sama that saved me? In that case, of course, I swear that he absolutely did not commit s, such filthy taboos."

She didn't know about when she lost consciousness, but there was no way Kami-sama would commit such crimes.

Going \*Fuu~~~\*, Rem breathed a deep sigh.

".....Thank goodness."

"Ahaha! We were really surprised when Diablo came carrying Lumachina-chan back. We thought that he attacked you."

".....That's unbelievable, is what I thought but.....since we couldn't completely deny it, I was worried that something had happened."

"Diablo, at times he does nothing but say "ah, yeah", doesn't he."

".....For some reason, there are times where he dislikes saying words. It really is troubling."

This time, Lumachina made a question.

"Um, you girls, what sort of relationship do you have with Kami-sama?"

".....Who do you mean by Kami-sama? Are you talking about Diablo?"

Rem made a verification, and Lumachina nodded.

"The personage that rescued me."

Shera held her own choker.

"Ya see, Diablo is, our owner I guess."

"No way!? Kami-sama has slaves!?"

"You're wrong—. This isn't a 《Slave Choker》, it's a 《Slavery Choker》. Erm, when we summoned a Demon King at 《Starfall Tower》, thanks to his Magic Reflection....."

She did her best in her own way to give an explanation, but Lumachina couldn't really understand it.

Rem made a summary.

"Diablo is, the leader of our Adventurer party, and a companion."

"Is that, so."

—Kami-sama is a companion? An Adventurer?

She made a verification just to be sure.

"Um.....The personage called Diablo, he is Kami-sama, isn't he?"

".....He is a Chemical Element Magician. He's outlandishly strong."

"He always says "I am the Demon King of another world"."

Lumachina held her head.

"Th, the one that saved me should have been Kami-sama.....If he wasn't, then I'll be troubled....."

".....And why is that?"

Rem tilted her head.

While blushing, Lumachina muttered.

"It's because.....my skin.....was seen."

".....What about it?"

Shera blurted out "We also show that normally, right?", and was hit by Rem. There was something that had been decided in Lumachina's heart.

"The only one that one's skin can be shown to, is the gentleman that will be their partner."

".....Ha?"

"Like I said, if the personage that is called Diablo isn't Kami-sama, then I believe

that we will have to become a couple. "

Rem's tail stood straight up.

"Fuah—!? What are you getting all excited on your own for!? You naked mantle girl!"

"Th, that's right, you need to properly protect the order of things! First, would be me, right!?"

"EHH, what do you mean by that!? Rem-san and Shera-san, you are only Adventurer party members, aren't you!?"

Rem turned her gaze away.

".....That's right."

"W, well, that might be? But, I think that Diablo likes big ones."

\*Munyu\* Shera held up her chest with both hands.

As they were talking about such things, the Diablo in question entered the room.

## Part 4

The ones that were in the room were Diablo, Rem, and Shera. And then, Lumachina, who had been laid down on the bed, now had her upper body raised up.

Since Lumachina's background was unknown, Krum and Edelgart were told to not come out from a separate room.

Or rather, since it was already nighttime, the two of them were sleeping. Eat, sleep, play—They were living such envious slow lives.

Diablo made it so that the impatience in his mind didn't show on his face. —What does she mean “need to become a couple”!?

Since their speaking voices leaked out into the hallway, he was completely eavesdropping.

She was a young girl that suddenly asked him “Are you Kami-sama?” in the nude, and had her life targetted by a Holy Knight.

She was a young girl beautiful enough to make several double takes, and after seeing every nook of her body and even what made her a “girl” .....Awawa.....

Being a couple would be troubling.

With his mouth about to slacken, Diablo gritted his teeth.

—No, no, life is precious.

It was no problem if it was just a single Holy Knight, but it would be dangerous if a faction was involved. At the very least, they were unmistakably stronger than the Adventurers of this town of Faltra and the Elven military forces.

In the MMORPG Cross Reverie, corrections would be made if there was a many versus one battle, but in this other world, there was probably no such help measures.

Even under normal circumstances, even though he had something to do with the death of the Holy Knight Sadraa.....

He honestly wanted to avoid confronting the Church which possesses enough power to rival the King in this country.

There was nothing to gain from that!

—That being said, I guess we should at least hear her situation. It would be too pitiable to throw her out from the inn without hearing her story after all.

Diablo leaned his back on the wall. Crossing his arms, he looked down on Lumachina, who was on top of the bed.

"It would seem that you've realized it."

"Yes, thank you very much for saving me. Um.....Diablo-sama, you are Kami-sama, aren't you?"

—Thinking that Kami-sama would appear to save her just isn't normal.

He didn't know how deeply religious she was, but no matter what, to think that she would believe "if she prays, Kami-sama should come to save her".

—How about you try writing that on Twitter? You'd get an inescapable field of comments calling you an idiot you know?

However, if he were to deny it here, that in itself would be bad.

It seemed that she was under the impression that "if the person that saw her naked was a person of the Races, then she needed to marry them".

She looked like she was at an age where she was no longer a child but.....was she some huge country bumpkin? Did she believe babies came from the cabbage fields or the stork?

—Her appearance is cute. Putting it plainly, if she confessed to me in the real world, she was at the level that I would suspect marriage fraud. However, I'm only getting dangerous premonitions.

Diablo thought about it, and spoke out his evasion plan.

"For certain reasons, I am making it so that I cannot reveal my true identity on this earth. Presume as you will."

Going \*Ha!\*, Lumachina opened her eyes wide.

In a rush, she got down from the bed.

It would be fine if she didn't push herself since her legs were still wrapped in bandages—is what he thought.

She knelt down on the floor.

"I shall call you Diablo-sama."

"U, umu!"

By doing this, while defending against being called "Kami-sama", he should have also been able to avoid the Marriage END route.

Rem kept silent. She most likely guessed Diablo's aim.

Shera tilted her head. It seemed that she didn't really understand.

It seemed that Lumachina was under the impression that Diablo was a "Kami-

sama that was hiding his identity”.

He once again questioned her.

"Lumachina.....Why was your life being targetted by a Holy Knight? Going by your appearance, you are not a Demon King Worshipper, are you?"

Going \*guh\*, she was at a loss for words.

She probably had a situation that was hard to say.

Rem muttered.

".....It would be in your best interests to speak your secrets early. Otherwise it will invite a situation that you will never forget throughout your whole life."

She was probably talking about how he had played around with her panther ears and brought her down in order to get her secret out of her before. Diablo also thought that he wouldn't forget that loud coquettish voice of hers throughout his whole life either.

Wondering how she should explain, Lumachina nodded.

"There is no meaning in creating a secret from Diablo-sama, is there."

".....If it is hard for you to say, should we leave the room?"

"No, if you are companions that Diablo-sama trusts, then I instead would like for you to listen as well."

Shera raised both hands.

"Oka—y!"

".....It seems to be quite the burden."

Rem nodded.

Diablo kept silent and urged for the story to continue.

Lumachina stood up from the floor, and put both of her hands together. A light was created at her chest.

With a \*Paahh\*, the radiance spread throughout the dim room.

What floated up was a holy symbol that was often seen at the chapel. It sparkled in pure white and was dazzling.

"I am the most prominent person in the Church—the High Chief Priest."

Rem's eyes went completely round.

".....The High Chief Priest!? The pride of the Church!?"

Shera was bewildered and went "Fue!? Fue!?", raising a strange voice.

".....I had heard that she was a young woman though! Th, that is you!?"

"The real thing!?"

"Yes."

Lumachina nodded.

Diablo kept his arms folded and slowly nodded.

Naturally, he knew—is the composed attitude he took, but in his mind, he was surprised to the point that it seemed like snot would come out.

So that's it! He could now consent to her thinking that "Kami-sama would appear in order to save her"! She had that big of a position.

Rem made an inquiry.

".....P, please wait a moment. From what we heard from Diablo, it seems that your life was targeted by a Holy Knight, correct?"

"Yes."

".....Unbelievable.....The Holy Knights are people that obey the will of the Church. And then, isn't the Church a group that obeys the will of the High Chief Priest? What's the meaning of this?"

Lumachina bit her lip, looking vexed.

"Regretfully, I myself do not possess that much authority. There are people called the Cardinal Institute<sup>[1]</sup>, and they are the ones that run the Church. The Cardinal Institute is composed of one chief cardinal official and six other cardinal officials, and the personnel selection is entrusted to the High Chief Priest.....is how it's made out to be, but to begin with, the ones that propose the candidates are the people of the Cardinal Institute."

".....So the one that can actually move the Church is the Cardinal Institute."

"That's because the authority as High Chief Priest was bestowed upon me, but a majority of the Holy Knights, who are the absolute armed might of the Church, obey the Cardinal Institute."

Though she has the authority, there was no meaning to it unless the ability to get things done accompanies it.

Rem nodded.

".....And so that is why you had your life targeted by a Holy Knight."

"It seemed that the Cardinal Institute decided to eliminate me."

".....Did something happen?"

Lumachina put a fingertip on her lip and pondered. It was a slightly child-like gesture.

"Nn— . Maybe it was because I enquired about the flow of dishonest money and

goods that were in the concessions of rites? Or perhaps, it was because I gave the order to investigate the rumors of the unjust deeds that the Holy Knights were doing? Or maybe, it was because I made propositions that prohibited priest employment through personal connections?"

".....That is, I certainly do believe those things cannot be overlooked but..... didn't they give you some sort of warning before they started targeting your life?"

"Yes, indirectly from a portion of the Cardinal Institution.....No, I was threatened quite bluntly."

"And you didn't obey them despite that?"

"I couldn't possibly overlook such injustices."

—She sure does have a strong sense of justice.

She seemed to have a personality that prized morals over her own life.

However, as a result of that, she really was about to die.....This girl, she's an idiot. There was no mistake she was an idiot.....But even so, Diablo didn't hate her.

Rem nodded.

".....Lumachina, you've said the righteous things. Hence, that is probably why your life was targeted. Doing the righteous thing is difficult in this world after all."

"And that is why I took action in this latest campaign."

".....A campaign?"

"Yes. A rumor that "the Demon King revived" in Faltra City had spread. And so I headed to Faltra City in the guise of "the High Chief Priest's visit" in order to calm the people's hearts."

".....Th, the Demon King's revival, is it. Something like that happening is—" Since Shera blurted out "That did happen—" with a smiling face, Rem kicked her butt.

Lumachina nodded.

"The recent Faltra City has been in continuous turmoil, so I was worried about the citizens. However, I took action for the sake of a different objective. "

".....And that objective is?"

"It was to report the current situation to the Head of the Holy Knights, Baduta, who was dispatched to a town that is in former Demon King territory."

Rem cast her gaze off to the distance so as to remember.

".....The Head of the Holy Knights Baduta, is it. I have heard of him. That he is an influential person that experienced the 《Great Races and Demonic Being War》, and that he is quite a noble personage."

"That is what I have heard as well. That he is a personage worthy of my trust..... However, half a year before I was appointed at the High Chief Priest, Baduta was dispatched to the Former Demon King territory."

".....Just as your life was being targeted, that person was sealed in the frontier.....Is that what you mean to say?"

"That is what I believe. However, if he were to know of the current situation, I believe that he would surely take action, and would surely protect me as well—Though, the one that told me that was the Holy Knight Tolia."

".....Are they trustworthy? That person you just mentioned."

"If she had not saved me.....Around this time, I would be....."

".....That person called Tolia, where is she now?"

Tears rose out from the corners of Lumachina's eyes. Her shoulders trembled.

"In order to save me.....she fell to the other Holy Knight....."

"Is, is that, so."

Rem was at a loss for words.

Shera was also moved to tears.

"That's so sad, such a good person was..... Lumachina-chan, you don't have to worry anymore! We will absolutely protect you!"

".....Again, you're saying that all on your own.....But, we can't leave her be."

The two of them were completely intending to help Lumachina.

Diablo thought things over.

—What are the suspicious parts of her story just now? Were there any inconsistencies?

Couldn't she write a letter to that Head of the Holy Knights, Baduta or whatever?

That would be useless.

After all, if it fell into the hands of the Cardinal Institute, it would just get Lumachina killed. Escaping took precedence over reporting her situation.

In that case, were there any other measures?

Diablo asked.

"Were you unable to rely upon the King? It is true that the Holy Knights are strong but.....There are also people with skill in the national armed forces as well."

Going by his own judgement, Feudal Lord Galford was around level 110.

Holy Knight Sadraa, and the Holy Knight Geibalt or whatever that he fought earlier were on the strong side, but it didn't feel as though they had broken through the limit. That would make them below level 99.

Lumachina made a troubled looking face.

"I was estranged even from the situation inside of the Church, so I understood even less about the situation of the royal court. If the party that I sought for cooperation were to lead to the Cardinal Institute, then....."

Shera leaned her body forward.

"There are things like that!? I mean, they're bad people, right!?"

Rem talked with a sigh mixed in.

".....Powerful people that commit corrupted actions generally have money. And then, there are quite a lot of people that would assist with injustice if they can accumulate money."

"That's just unforgivable!"

Although Rem looked like she wanted to say something to the indignant Shera, she changed the subject.

".....Lumachina's insecurity is only natural, and I am able to agree with it."

"Fumu"

Diablo nodded.

He didn't know what position the Feudal Lord Galford or the Adventurer's Guild Guildmaster Sylvie would take in regards to the Church.

Rather, he even thought that it was natural for anyone to support the side that was stronger and had money.

If there was anyone that would take great care of her with only her position of High Chief Priest, it would probably be people that were heavily pious.

### **Translator's Notes:**

[1] Not sure how to translate this. Original: 枢教院

## Part 5

Rem asked some questions.

".....Lumachina, what do you plan on doing from now on? If the Holy Knight that attacked you doesn't return to the Royal Capital, the Cardinal Institute will surely think that the assassination failed. Your life might be targeted once again, you know?"

"Even if that is the case, I cannot just run away and hide. If I do not go to the town Baduta was dispatched to and obtain his cooperation, then."

".....It was in the former Demon King territory, correct?"

"Yes. I heard that it was the Frontier City Zircon Tower."

Diablo had heard of that town's name.

In MMORPG Cross Reverie, it was an area that was put in the middle stage. It was one of the forefronts up until the large scale update from two years earlier was made, and was the base for the highest leveled Players in those days.

Of course, it was a town that Diablo also used for a short while.

—It was also at that time that I obtained my personal space.

In order to set that up, the place that Diablo's dungeon existed should have been close to Zircon Tower.

Though, in the game, it wasn't possible to walk the field and wander into someone's personal space.

How would it be in this other world?

Could it just be walked into?

Or could it be that Diablo's dungeon just didn't exist?

Rem made a sigh.

".....So it's the Frontier City Zircon Tower.....That is one of the bases in the former Demon King territory. I know the route there from Faltra City, but for someone that is neither an Adventurer nor a peddler, it's a place where you will require good luck just to barely reach it, you know?"

"I have resolved myself. I cannot give up here."

Shera asked a question.

"Wouldn't it be fine if you just wrote a letter to that Baduta-san!?"

Lumachina demonstrated her disapproval.

"A letter would surely not be enough to make him take action. Cooperating with me would mean confronting the Cardinal Institute. As I am seeking that much, it cannot be conveyed with a letter."

Rem nodded.

".....With a letter, it's uncertain if the person themselves even wrote it."

"Even for me, I would be reluctant if I were entrusted with the fate of someone I never met before. It would be just my own life after all. The Church's future. That would also be this country's future."

".....I understand."

The story went on to a grand scale.

However, it was probably a position where she should be thinking that far. It seemed that the Church's authority was comparable with even the King. And then, originally, she would be in a position that supervises the Church.

Lumachina made a declaration.

"No matter how difficult it will be, I absolutely have to go to Zircon Tower!"

Since the story ran a bit long, Diablo organized it within his head—  
It seemed that Lumachina was the High Chief Priest, the most distinguished person in the Church.

However, in actuality, the ones that controlled the Church was the Cardinal Institute.

It appeared that the Cardinal Institute earned money with dishonest means, and using those funds, they seized control of the Church. There was probably no mistake that Lumachina, who was going to expose their injustices, almost being assassinated by a Holy Knight was due to them.

Therefore, she decided to rely on the Head of the Holy Knights, Baduta, who was dispatched to Zircon Tower City that was in the former Demon King territory. He seemed to be a trustworthy person.

—Well, it would be best if the problems of the Church were settled by a person of the Church.

Rem came with a proposal.

"How about it, Diablo. How does escorting Lumachina there with us sound?"

"Mu.....?"

"Ah, that sounds good! Let's do that!"

Shera was enthusiastic about it.

Lumachina was surprised and half rose to her feet.

"That would really help me out but.....Isn't that dangerous!?"

".....We are Adventurers. We wouldn't be able to do anything if we were to avoid danger. Besides, you should have seen Diablo's strength, right?"

"Y, yes.....Certainly, it was foolish of me to be concerned over Kami-sama's..... Ah, no, Diablo-sama's well-being. I still do not have enough faith."

"What will we do, Diablo?"

Rem, as well as the other two, stared at him.

—I do feel that Lumachina's sense of justice is quite noble, and I do sympathize with her circumstances.

However, he wanted to avoid antagonizing the Church.

Unlike the game, in this world, if you die, then you die. Even if they were Adventurers, he didn't think of wanting to jumping into known dangers.

Rem added to her words.

".....Also, we can expect a reward. Since Lumachina is the High Chief Priest, once she regains the Church's authority, the budget she can freely use will surely be big. It will be an amount that corresponds with the work."

Lumachina swung her head vertically.

"Although I do not possess much now, if Diablo-sama requires it, I will prepare as much as I can."

Come to think of it, she was under the impression that Diablo was Kami-sama. Not just the reward, it might be possible to expect her support from now on. As things are now, this party would end up bankrupt from the biscuit expenses in the near future.

Their snacks went up to 500 F per day—though they say that, in actuality, the amount of money that they needed was many times bigger than that. There was no telling what Krum would do when she ran out of biscuits, and if she begged, both Rem and Shera would indulge her.

—If it's just escorting Lumachina to Zircon Tower, it would end without antagonizing the Church, right?

Most likely, the Church's side wouldn't grasp the situation.

If they didn't know this side's strength, they shouldn't dispatch any significant fighting power. It wouldn't be a problem if it was just a Holy Knight or two.

Diablo curved the ends of his mouth and expressed a smile.

"Kukuku.....So you seek power. In that case, I shall lend you my strength. The strength of a Demon King of another world!"

Lumachina knelt down and put her hands together.

Like this, Diablo misrepresented himself as God for the sake of biscuit expenses and avoiding marriage.

## Part 6

The next morning—

When Diablo's group went to the inn's dining hall with the four of them, Krum and Edelgart, who had a rare early rising, were there.

Lumachina opened her eyes wide.

"Wh, what is this!? This sinister, dark, evil power that is gushing forth from these people.....!?"

Krum stood up on top of the seat of the chair.

"Nuwah—!? What is this -nanoda, this person of the Races!? She has that guy's stench!"

"What do you mean by that guy?"

Krum shouted at Diablo's question.

"God!"

—That's amazing. They're the real deal, the both of them.

It seemed that Lumachina could see the magical power of the Demon King that Krum emitted.

If Diablo weren't doing a roleplay and were a genuine Demon King, she probably wouldn't haven't mistaken him for Kami-sama.

Even with Krum, she was able to smell that Lumachina was the High Chief Priest, the one that was closest to God.

Krum didn't have any malice towards the Races, but it seemed that her hatred towards the God that sealed her for a long time was strong.

—Ahh, it'll turn into a fight at this rate.

He needed to stop them!

Diablo placed his hands on the heads of the two that were glaring at each other.

"You two, you are not thinking of quarrelling right before my eyes, are you? Dark magical power? God's stench? That is just noise to stir my displeasure, isn't it?"

Lumachina lowered her shoulders.

"I, I am terribly sorry, for making such a disturbance."

"Hmph, she will make the biscuits taste bad. She should sit far away from Maou

-noda."

Krum sat back down in her chair.

Even Edelgart, who looked like she would jump at her at any moment, slowly lowered her fists.

With things ending without becoming an uproar, Rem and Shera let out sighs of relief.

Diablo also wiped the cold sweat in his mind.

—Their compatibility is the absolute worst!

As they had a large number of people, Diablo's group ended up using the table next to Krum's group.

While they were having breakfast—

Rem told Krum's group the conversation they had last night.

".....And that is why we will be escorting Lumachina to a town called Zircon Tower in the former Demon King territory."

"Fumu fumu"

".....Since there are travel preparations to be made, we leave tomorrow morning."

"I see -nanoda."

While she was nodding, Krum stuck a biscuit in her cheeks.

Edelgart raised her hand up a bit.

"Is that～.....have to go.....no matter, what? Might be.....troubling."

".....Do you have something going on?"

"Edelgart～, has work."

She was talking like working Players that were invited to net game events.

Rem tilted her head.

".....Could you tell me more about that in detail?"

"This."

What she held out, was a poster.

Bakery 《Peter》's employee recruitment.

Rem was dumbfounded.

".....C, could it be, are you looking for employment!?"

"Edelgart～.....for sake of Demon King-sama, will fight! For sake of Demon King-sama～, even make biscuit? Will make!"

She proudly stuck her chest out.

That is some considerable loyalty.

".....That ability to take action is admirable but.....Do you understand your own situation?"

"Demon King-sama's~, servant?"

".....It's fine. Please take plenty of caution."

"Leave~, it to me."

Edelgart made a hand sign that couldn't be broadcasted on television.

Lumachina was unable to keep up with the conversation, and was baffled.

That was only reasonable—There were two people among the people here that claimed to be the Demon King, and moreover, one of them was a little girl, and the maid that accompanied her was a Demonic Being.

It was too much trouble to explain.

Diablo said what he was thinking since last night.

"Krum and Edelgart will remain here."

Rem placed her hand on her own neck.

".....Krum has a 《Slave Choker》 placed on her though?"

"This will become an experiment on that. There is no telling the limitations of “not being apart” is, right?"

".....Will that be alright?"

"We will pass through several towns until we reach Zircon Tower."

Bringing these two along and passing through the gate, that would probably be accompanied by some considerable dangers.

In particular, Edelgart's make-up, it is something done from the inn's poster girl Mei's skill, and it wasn't something that could be copied so easily.

If it were to rain, they would be in a big pinch.

Moreover, she is being chased by other Demonic Beings.

"It's fine since this town of Faltra is being protected by a barrier but.....When we go outside, there is no telling what will happen. There is no barrier at Zircon Tower after all."

"Is that true!?"

Rem was surprised and raised her voice.

Shera twisted her neck.

"The thing that keeps Demonic Beings and Demonic Beasts from entering is the barrier, right? Are they alright without that?"

—Could it be that it's different in this world? It didn't have any ramparts in the game though.

Diablo shrugged his shoulders.

"We'll know once we go. In any case, it would be safer if Krum and Edelgart remained here. It seems that they've assumed some work after all."

When he looked over at Krum's group, they firmly nodded.

"Umu. Maou will not go to a place with no biscuits."

—I was thinking about her personal safety though.....Well, since she's a child, it ended without a fight. Let's leave it without worrying about the small details.

"Krum, I shall now give you orders. Listen to me carefully—First, protect yourself. After that, protect the people around you. Within those limits, be sure to listen to the people of the inn."

"Umu! Just leave it to me!"

While saying that, she stuck a biscuit in her cheeks.

He became worried if she properly listened to him.

"....."

"Mu? I listened to you properly. Do not die. Protect. Obey, right? I would normally be the one ordering underling Demonic Beings, but since Maou is magnanimous, I will accept it -noda."

It seems that she understood.

However, he didn't feel the flow of magical power.

—I'm starting to doubt if there really was compelling force to make her follow. It might not work on a Demon King.

She technically did have the 《Slave Choker》 attached but.....

Rem raised one hand. The poster girl came from the counter.

"Do you need something? If that wasn't enough, I'll bring you some more☆"

Rem made a brief explanation of the situation.

".....We'll be going on a long-term commision, and it looks like Diablo, Shera, and I will be leaving Faltra City for a short while. Since we'll be leaving Krum and Edelgart behind, I would like to ask you help them out."

"That's oka~y with me☆"

Shera hugged Krum.

"Krum-chan! I'll be going out on a job, 'kay!"

"I see. Do not worry, Maou is fine even when alone. I will be sure to practice

singing. I have already memorized up until the 32nd verse of the biscuit song -noda."

"Good, good!"

"Once you get back, be sure to teach me the chocolate song, got it?"

"I'll be sure to make it!"

"I cannot help but worry since you are somewhat unsteady -nanoda. I shall give you a small bit of Maou's power."

"What? Since I'm not a Demonic Being, I can't receive any power from Krum-chan, you know?"

"On this one here, this one."

Krum extended one hand out.

She touched Shera's bow.

The Demon King's magical power poured into it. This time, he was able to sense it.

Rem reflexively half rose to her feet, and Lumachina tightly grasped her holy symbol. It was enough for even Diablo to secretly extended his hand to his pouch.

There was that vast amount of magical power being emitted.

The wooden bow was something close to white, but it transformed into a jet black weapon tinged with a sinister magical power. Shera's eyes went round.

"Wawa!? It turned into a strong looking appearance!?"

"Fu fu fu, you should be fine with this -nanoda!"

"Yup. It feels a bit cursed but.....Thank you, Krum-chan!"

With a \*gyuu\*, she hugged her once again.

Shera's bow was originally endowed with a bit of magical power. It seemed to be a treasure in this world, but in the MMORPG Cross Reverie, it should be at the "hurry up and sell off at the Weapon Shop" level.

As for its grading of either N (Normal), R (Rare), or SR (Super Rare), it was around R.

However, the magical power that the strengthened jet black bow was endowed with wasn't normal. It wasn't on the level of Diablo's equipment but.....SR? No, could it suitable to be called SSR (Double Super Rare).

—If guys that spent their lives on the gacha and were in ecstasy from the SSR items that had an appearance rate of less than 1% were to see this, they would

definitely cry.

That was an outrageous cheat.

He had the thought that he was really glad that this girl didn't set out to go to war with the people of the Races.

# **Chapter 3: Trying Out Going to a New Town**

# Part 1

Two weeks later.

Lifelia Kingdom Calendar, Year 164, Month 7, Day 20, Midday—

Receiving wind on the sails, the sand ship sailed.

It was a small wooden yacht that had about 10 people onboard, but the location wasn't the sea, but a desert.

The hull that was strengthened by magic cut through the waves of sand and advanced forward.

With this being her first time, Shera was extremely excited. Rem was nervous.

As for Lumachina, she prayed to Kami-sama the whole time.

This was something that Diablo experienced in the MMORPG Cross Reverie but.....

—This feels super good!

He crossed his arms and sat down looking massive like a Demon King, but he had trouble keeping the ends of his lips from grinning.

The ship's captain that wore a black cloth on his head pointed straight ahead.

"There's Zircon Tower!"

"Umu!"

In the horizon that was nothing but light brown sand, a warped tower could be seen.

Surrounding the tower, there were several tents.

There was a lake in the middle of the desert.

It was one of those so-called oasis things.

And then, at the center of the lake, a sand colored tower was erected. Looking closely, rather than sand, it was stone—Or rather, it was precious stone.

It was faintly transparent, and light was complexly reflected on the interior and dispersed.

It wasn't a structure of the Races. It was said that this as a tower that the Demonic Beings created.

This was former Demon King territory—

Up until just 30 years prior, this was a land where the Demon King reigned, Demonic Beings lived, and Demonic Beasts crept about.

As the speed was slowing down, Rem was finally able to regain her composure.

".....I thought I was going to die."

"Kuku.....You are surprisingly a coward."

Her cheeks blushed a bit.

".....Diablo, you might not understand this since you are able to fly as far as the sky but.....I am not good with travel where I do not use my own two feet. Both carriages and ships....."

"It is something you get used to."

".....Yes. Nevertheless, we arrived here quite easily."

"Would you have preferred if we went through more hardships?"

"No, of course not.....Diablo, you talked like you were familiar with the Demon King territory, didn't you? Isn't this your first time coming to the former Demon King territory?"

"Mu....."

Diablo had introduced himself as a "Demon King of another world". It was a bit strange for him to be familiar with the Demon King territory of this world.

Frankly speaking, the setting was half-hearted.

"That is.....in other words.....th, though I have not come here before, I know about it. For I am a Demon King."

This was agonizing.

It was an agonizing setting that would warrant a tsukkomi on the BBS.

Rem nodded.

".....Demon Kings do have that sort ability, don't they."

What a good girl. He ended up feeling like he would reflexively pat her head.

Diablo hid the turmoil of his mind, crossed his arms and reclined back looking self-important.

"Umu, as I am a Demon King, it is only natural that I am familiar with the Demon King territory."

Though they had some surprising hardships like getting lost on the road, having the weather go bad on them, and not being able to find the ferryman.....

The map was fairly different from the one in MMORPG Cross Reverie.

In any case, it was vast.

That was also the case with the distance between Faltra City and 《Starfall

Tower》, but it was much more vast when compared with the game.

Because of that, he had mistaken the road several times until he became familiar with it.

Even with a dungeon that was a straight line in the game, in this world, it swerved quite a bit. Though, that was natural if it were a natural cavern.

Also, the fact that Diablo forgot a portion of the map was also a reason for their hardships.

Since he traveled by nothing but 《Transfer》 after becoming high leveled, it had been a staggeringly long time since he had passed through the area that they immediately entered from Faltra City on their way to the Demon King territory. If it were a normal Player, they might have gone along with some newly made companions, and passed through this area many times over but.....

Diablo pretty much never joined a party with other people.

—Ah, I guess I'm doing that right now.

For Rem and Shera, this was their first time coming to this place. Though, Lumachina was more of someone they were escorting than a companion.

"I guess it was something like this....."

The voice that he accidentally muttered was drowned out by the sound of the ship pushing the sand out of the way.

When they entered the town, the sand ship approached the pier.

Though it was called a pier, it was different from the ones that project out to sea from the shore.

Right now, the place that it crossed over was the desert, but the sand ground continued on even into the town. There weren't any particular differences.

The pier was a slope for the sake of getting down from the sand boat's tall gunwale to the ground.

Just as he carried some large luggage and was about to jump down—

Shera yelled "We're here—!!" and jumped down from the boat.

\*Zuboh\* Landing on both feet, her legs were buried in the sand. It went up to her knees.

"Fugyaa～!?"

".....We'll leave you behind you know?"

"Are, are you alright?"

Rem and Lumachina got down using the pier. Diablo also did the same.

"Wait, wait, I can't get out—!?"

When she struggled about trying to break free, she was buried further into the sand. When a large amount of sand gets on top of one's instep, it's surprisingly hard to get the foot out.

Diablo grabbed onto the nape of Shera's neck, and pulled her up. Going \*dosa ~~~っ\*, the sand fell down. Even the inside of her boots were covered in sand.

Because there was a difference in their physique, Diablo ended with only sinking a little bit.

"Hmph"

"Th, thank you, Diablo~"

\*Gyuu\* She clung onto him.

## Part 2

As they left the sand ship behind—

The main street, is that how it should be expressed as? There were tents that were round like pancakes lined up on the left and right, and the sand road continued on inside the town.

Bustling about, children approached them.

"Your luggage, I'll carry it! Your luggage, I'll carry it! Your luggage, I'll carry it!"  
—This kind of thing didn't happen in the game.

Rem stopped Shera who was going to ask them to.

"Don't. They'll either carry your luggage away, or, even if they're good and don't, demand payment for carrying your luggage, you know?"

"Is, is that so....."

"Since we don't have any heavy luggage that we need to entrust to someone, let's just carry it ourselves."

"Kay!"

Lumachina made a sad-looking face.

"....."

She was probably feeling sorry for the poor-looking children.

Rem called out to her.

".....They are purposely wearing tattered clothes, you know? If you look at their complexion, you'll understand that they are eating properly. It's the children's petty way of earning some extra money."

"Is that so!?"

".....It isn't limited to the former Demon King territory. It's like this in any town."

With a surprised look, Lumachina looked around.

Diablo was surrounded at a distance by those greedy children. Whether it be the horns that could be seen growing from his head, or his appearance that was dress in complete black, it seemed that he had an atmosphere that made it hard to approach him.

Diablo's group walked heading towards the tower.

The sand ground didn't change, but the buildings increased.

He didn't pay any attention to it in the game but—even though it was sandy soil where one's feet would sink if one wasn't careful, for them to make stone built buildings, he was a bit surprised. Some kind of devising was probably done.

"Ah, there's a flower."

Lumachina pointed.

Amazing, there was a flower bed in front on a building in this barren land.

Rem smiled.

".....It looks like it's quite easy to obtain water in this area."

"There is the smell of water after all."

Shera pointed ahead.

At the end of the road, the lake was there. Small waves sparkled.

Zircon Tower City was in MMORPG Cross Reverie as well, and had the same structure. However, rather than a lake, it was more of a moat that surrounded the tower.

—Well, in the game, it was a small base that only had the needed buildings to play after all.

In the Zircon Tower City of this world, there were children, as well as their parents. There were also restaurants and clothing stores.

"What the heck is that!? It's quite different from what I was told, isn't it!?"

A high-pitched voice was heard.

Was it a child?

Looking at where it came from, there were four men that looked like Adventurers and a rabbit-eared young Grasswalker boy having a dispute.

No, going by his appearance, was the young boy also an Adventurer? He wore lightweight leather armor, and carried a short sword.

The Grasswalkers were a race that didn't change from their child-like appearance no matter how old they got. He most likely wasn't a child.

A Pantherian man pushed the shoulder of the Grasswalker that they were drawing near.

"It's only natural for the useless one to get less of the reward!"

"Oi oi oi~!? I was useful, wasn't I!? I guided you there, didn't I!? I did the lock-picking, didn't I!? There was even treasure, wasn't there!?"

"A huge amount of strong monsters rushed out, and we were almost wiped

out!"

"Eh~!?"

—A monster house huh. That's a standard trap.

Diablo also set those up in his own personal space.

There existed a large amount of dungeons in the former Demon King territory.

They were probably an Adventurer party that was capturing one of them.

In the MMORPG Cross Reverie, the division of acquired items and experience points was performed automatically. Things like having it stolen by force didn't happen.

Even so, sometimes there were people that proposed things like 『parasite Players that didn't play an active role should hand over their rewards』 though.....

Since Diablo did nothing but play solo, he was unrelated to that sort of trouble. He was glad there was any such pains for him.

—As I thought, if you're going to do an MMORPG, playing solo is the way to go!

The Pantherian man displayed his long sword.

"Well, this is quite a sharp sword. My great self will use it effectively."

The blade was clad in flames.

The surrounding guys cheered on.

"Uhyo—, tha's incredible!""Nice goin', Aniki!""Let's go and test it out!"

—Is that a 《Red Sword》?

It was a weapon that he recognized.

Rank R trash.....That way of thinking was his sense in the game. In this world, even that seemed to be a fairly precious weapon.

In the game, in order to obtain rare raw materials, Players would do rash things without taking their lives into consideration. The death penalty wasn't light, but it wasn't like the account was deleted.

However, in this world, it's the end once they die.

Those that collected rare raw materials were limited, so accordingly, nothing but weapons with low quality were circulated.

Suddenly, Diablo had a thought.

—Come to think of it, I also created a monster house in my dungeon and placed a 《Red Sword》 there. That's a coincidence.....right?

The young Grasswalker boy refused to back down.

"That sword has a value of around 10,000,000 F, doesn't it!? Why the heck did I only get one silver coin!?"

One silver coin was 4,000 F.

For someone that dove into the dungeon together with them, that's just wrong. The Pantherian man bared his fangs.

"If we weren't there, you would have been monster food around this time, wouldn't you!?"

"If I weren't there, you wouldn't have reached the treasure, right!?"

"Hou.....You looking for a fight? I'm fine with testing this thing on you first, you know?"

He thrust the sword before him.

Since the flames were just an effect, it didn't give off any heat, but the young Grasswalker boy panicked and drew back.

"Uuu....."

"That's a suitable amount for a Grasswalker that only sneakily hides the whole time."

".....Even though you said I would get an equal split."

"Aan!?"

The young boy became timid from the threatening voice that sounded like he would cut him up soon.

He unwillingly nodded.

"N, no.....This is fine."

"You should have said that from the beginning. If you're fine with that amount, we'll use you again. See ya! Gehahaha!"

While raising laughter, the four Adventurers disappeared into a bar. It was still midday, but most bars would operate while it was bright out, and serve lunch. After the figures of the other party disappeared, the young Grasswalker boy raised the silver coin overhead.

"Don't screw with me! Those cheating bastards! Go get torn to shreds!"

Throwing the silver coin onto the ground—He only made the motion for that, and crammed it into his pocket.

Having also seen the whole story like Diablo, Rem shrugged her shoulders.

".....Similar things happen everywhere."

"Does that sort of thing happen in Faltra City as well?"

".....I also, have had my reward unjustly reduced for the reason that I was a woman."

"How idiotic."

".....Yes. I didn't hesitate to Summoned Beasts against those sorts of people though."

"Umu."

Shera and Lumachina were in front of the flower bed and were excitedly talking about methods of raising flowers.

It seemed that the conversation the Adventurers were having didn't enter their ears.

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## Part 3

"You guys, are you Adventurers?"

The young Grasswalker boy from before called out to them.

Because of his somewhat quirky and rather short hair, his high-pitched voice, and his energy filled countenance, he looked very cheerful. His rabbit ears swayed left and right. Going by his appearance, he was the exploratory type.



Surprisingly, it seemed that he didn't have a timid personality.  
Diablo folded his arms and responded.

"What is it?"

Sensing that things might immediately turn into trouble, Rem got in between them.

".....We are Adventurers that came from Faltra City, but what about it?"

"Faltra? What, are you out shopping?"

".....We are escorting a certain person. Though that will be ending today."

"Oh, is that so! Would you like to go a dungeon then? Since you've gone through the trouble of coming out as far as Zircon Tower, I don't think it'll be a loss for you to challenge a new dungeon, you know?"

".....A new dungeon, is it?"

"Yeah, an amazing one was discovered recently! Going by the entrance, it isn't a normal one. The treasures inside, all of them are special!"

".....That does sound interesting."

"How about it? I'll introduce you to an experienced dungeon guide and expert lock picker, you know? To be precise, me!"

He turned his thumb towards himself.

—Capturing a dungeon, huh.

Certainly, returning empty-handed would be absurd.

Diablo thought that might also be fine once they were done escorting Lumachina.

Rem enquired about it.

".....That abnormal entrance, what do you mean by that?"

"That's something to look forward to when we form a party.....is what I would like to say, but alright. I'll tell you as a special offer."

Putting on an air of importance, the young Grasswalker boy talked.

"The lion statue that appears in front of the gate, it moves and attacks you."

Diablo gulped from those words.

—What was that!?

"T, tell me about that in detail!"

He reflexively grabbed both of the Grasswalker's shoulders.

"Wawa!?"

"Oi, you, that dungeon, does it go down as far as thirteen floors!?"

"There's no way I would know that, no one's gone past the third floor after all....."

"If it's the third floor.....Once you defeat the slimes in the order of green, black, red, blue, dark green, and dark yellow, the key to the next floor should appear, right!?"

"Ehh, is that true!? Certainly, there are various colored slimes aimlessly wandering about....."

"Was 『F43』 written on the floor's door!?"

"If I remember correctly.....it, might have.....!?"

"ツ!!"

—That's, totally my dungeon, isn't it!?

Since the retro game that was the inspiration for it didn't exist in this world, it probably became a bit too difficult for them.

The young Grasswalker boy conversely started asking questions.

"Hey, you, who are you!? Was that just now true!? Do you also know about the fourth floor!?"

"About that....."

Talking about everything here, would be foolish.

If it was Diablo's dungeon, the 《Warehouse》—the treasure room that stored the items that he gathered was on the lowest floor.

He had no intention of handing those over to other people.

He let go of the Grasswalker's shoulders.

"You should forget about this."

"Wai.....Don't be like that -ssu yo! Danna (Boss), you're an amazing Adventurer, ain't cha -ssu ka!? Hey, hey, let's go to the dungeon, the dungeon!. I, I'll be useful, you know -ssu yo?"

Probably sensing something—Rem shifted the topic. She truly was a smart girl.

".....I'm sorry but do you know about the Holy Knight Baduta? We have come here to meet with him."

"Eh, a big-wig of the Church? U—n.....He lives on the west side of the town but....."

The Grasswalker frowned.

Was there something up?

As they were standing around talking, Shera came rushing over.

"Diablo, that!"

"Mu?"

Lumachina was in the middle of the street, and glaring at an armored man for some reason.

—She's causing trouble—!?

So he got too engrossed with the talk of the dungeon!

Rem panicked and flew to her.

"D, did something happen!?"

While saying that, she wedged herself in between the armored man and Lumachina.

The Human man talked sounding irritated.

"This woman, she came picking a fight!"

The pointed at Lumachina didn't take a single step back from the towering giant, and glared at him.

"Kicking a woman that was seeking help, that is something I cannot overlook!"

Beside the two of them, there was a woman.

She was a Pantherian whose age was around 30. She had fallen on the ground, and was preciously holding a baby that was wrapped in cloth. With Lumachina and the man's quarrelling happening in front of her, she completely flustered. The man talked sounding displeased.

"If she requires Priest-sama's aid, then she should get in line, and pay a contribution! Even if she brings something like a crying baby to a place to eat food, it's just a bother! It's inevitable for guys that bothers others to be kicked, right!?"

"Do you believe yourself to be sinless? If those that have faults are forgiven no matter what they do, then you also should have your sins deeply censured."

"Keh! There's no way I would have something like sin! After all, I am part of the Holy Knight Unit!"

Lumachina made a puzzled face.

"Eh? What is the, Holy Knight "Unit"?"

Now that he mentioned it, the crest of the Church was engraved on the man's armor.

It wasn't elegant armor on the level of the Holy Knights, and was something cheap similar to what the other Adventurers wore, but the crest couldn't be attached to people that weren't authorized.

Diablo's mantle was pulled on.

When he looked, it was the Grasswalker from earlier.

"So you were still here."

"So mean!? This is bad -ssu yo, Danna! That guy's part of the Holy Knight Unit."

"What is that? I do know about the Holy Knights though."

"An imitation, I guess? They are the Church's soldiers, and at any rate, are pretty rough. They're a bunch that are like bandits. Although I don't know how they are in other towns, in this town, they throw their weight around and are a huge bother."

"Hou."

They had come to rely on the Head of the Holy Knights Baduta but.....

—This might have been a mistake. If the subordinates are like that.

According to Lumachina and the man's conversation—

It seemed that Pantherian mother came seeking medical treatment for the baby with God's miracle. Finding that to be a bother, the Holy Knight Unit kicked her away.

Having seen that series of events, it seemed that Lumachina got mad and sermoned him.

Since you're in a position where your life is being targeted, don't cause trouble, is what he thought. However, if she had a personality that would pretend to not see an assault on a weak person, her life wouldn't be targeted by the Cardinal Institute in the first place.

Lumachina sermoned him saying that "anyone has sin".

"It is written even in the third chapter of the Scriptures of the Beginning.....As all people are born, they harbor sin....."

It seemed that she had completely memorized the scriptures.

Since the other party claimed to be an authorized person of the Church, he has probably heard that verse before.

Lumachina's body was faintly shining.

As she was reciting the scripture from memory, magical power overflowed from her. Since it was a phenomenon caused through prayer, to be accurate, it might be something different from magic power.

The wind became stronger, and sand fluttered about.

Birds flew away from the lake due to the abnormal event happening, and dogs were barking in the distance.

In the MMORPG Cross Reverie, the Church's dogma wasn't divulged in detail. He thought that usual religion was most likely used as the base, as standard of European-style fantasy, but.....

Not going too deeply into religion and politics was part of the basics of works for amusement.

And then, the Holy Knight Unit man that was being overpowered—He snapped. "Acting so self-important, you're so annoying!"

"Listen to me!"

"A mere Adventurer shouldn't go making a sermon to my great self, a person of the Holy Knight Unit!!"

He tightly gripped a fist, and pushed it out.

Diablo's 《Staff of Tenma》 hit the man's face hard.

He was flashily blown away.

Flying about five meters, and even after landing, about five meters of the ground was gouged out, and he stopped with about half of his body buried in the sand.

Diablo shrugged his shoulders.

"Hmph.....It was going one ear and whatever it was, for him. For those like him, it's no good no matter what you say."

No one cared if it was a quarrel as it seemed like those happened often but—Since a man of the Holy Knight Unit was blown ten meters away, as expected, it gathered attention.

They talked about it and caused an uproar.

Surprisingly, the man stood up.

Sand fell from the armor. And then, blood was dripping from the corners of his mouth.

"Ugugoh.....Y, you bastards.....ツ!!"

"Hou, you're quite sturdy, aren't you."

—His level might be higher than Emil's. As expected of a town of the former Demon King territory that was made into a base.

"You've gone and opposed the Church, haven't you!?"

"That again, huh. Small fry cling onto their distinct organizations really quickly. No.....since they class themselves with large organizations, do they act haughty on a regular basis?"

"It's too late for you! I'll purify you right here!"

The man drew his sword.

The people that were watching in the vicinity quickly took their distance.

As the worry that people would get dragged in disappeared, things became a lot easier.

Since they knew of Diablo's way of fighting—Rem and the others went behind him and went back a bit. They also took care of the mother and child who were the cause of the turmoil.

—Good grief, now how should I go easy on him?

Should he use the 《Trial-Made Great War Scythe》?

No, with an opponent that was stronger than a level 50 Warrior, there was the fear that it would become a close fight with that weapon.

Since there was a target to protect, he couldn't allow that possible chance.

The basics of an Escort Quest is “don't let the enemy get close”.

Diablo pointed the 《Staff of Tenma》.

"Get blown away! 《Explosion》!!"

It was a magic that is learned at level 50, but since Diablo's parameters were high, it had abnormal power.

He fired that at the ground.

The Holy Knight Unit man that had readied his sword was once again blown away by the explosion—'s after-effect.

Even the citizens of the town that properly took their distance went into an uproar from the unexpected hot winds.

The black smoke cleared up.

A large hole opened up in the ground.

The people of the town.....looked fine.

—Phew, thank goodness. I want to make as little trouble for them as possible.

The Holy Knight Unit man was half way buried in the sand once again.

Going \*gahah!\*, he got up.

"Ah, ga, gagah!?"

"Hmph.....To still be alive, you are quite a lucky one."

"Wha.....!? Was that.....Chemical Elemental Magic!?"

"So you still haven't had enough of it. Very well, I will turn you into ash with the next one without fail!"

Of course, that was just a threat.

When he pointed his staff—The Holy Knight Unit man’s face went pale, and he threw his sword down and ran away.

"Hii~~~~~!!"

"Kukuku.....What a dull small fry."

While Diablo took a haughty attitude, on the inside, he breathed a sigh of relief. Now that the guy had ran away, he thought about what they should do now.

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## Part 4

The surrounding had become completely noisy.

—Was that bad? Was using magic in the middle of town in midday a mistake!?

He was acting aloof like a Demon King, but a cold sweat was going down his back. Both Rem and Shera were also troubled on how to control the situation.

As for Lumachina, she talked to the Pantherian mother and child.

"Earlier, you required the Church's aid—is that correct?"

"Y, yes! This child is!"

Seeing an explosion nearby, she should be fairly shaken up, but when it came to her child, it felt like she couldn't care less about the explosion.

—A mother huh.....

She took off the cloth that wrapped around the baby.

On it's feet, there were eight nevi that looked like dark purple × marks had been written on it.

Diablo was about to reflexively raise his voice and go "Eh!?". It was because there was something quite similar to that even in the MMORPG Cross Reverie.

Lumachina made a puzzled face.

"What is that?"

The Pantherian mother bitterly appealed to her.

"It's the Marked Death Disease.....It is an illness that is a prevalence in this town right now.....The number of nevi gradually increase, and once the ninth one surfaces.....Th, they die....."

"What was that!?"

"If they receive the Priest-sama's miracle, they can be cured but....."

"Let's quickly go to the chapel!"

"We can't."

"Why is that!?"

"Th, that's....."

The mother found it hard to talk.

"It's money."

It was the young Grasswalker boy. He was gritting his teeth.

"Those guys of the Church, even though they can use miracles, they demand an incredibly huge amount of donations. Not just the Marked Death Disease, it goes for other illnesses as well."

"No way.....!! I mean, the life of such a young child is at risk, you know!?"

"Although I don't know how things are in other towns.....This place is just that sort of town. Even that person, she begged to that Holy Knight Unit guy from before, and she just got kick away, didn't she."

The mother hugged the baby tight.

Her shoulders trembled.

Death would come with nine xs.

On the baby, there were already eight nevi lined up.

Diablo was about to speak.

However, what should he say? The information he had in regards to the Marked Death Disease was something he obtained in the game. The cause and method of dealing with it might be different from the one of this world.

"....."

Lumachina clenched her fists.

"—I understand! I will do the healing!"

"Eh? It isn't something so simple as....." is what the young Grasswalker boy said as he tilted his head.

Lumachina pulled her holy symbol out from her breast, and pointed it towards the baby.

"This is my first time seeing this disease, but Kami-sama will protect him. My prayer will surely get through to him. Isn't that right?"

The one she turned her gaze to, was Diablo.

—Come to think of it, she mistook me for Kami-sama, didn't she. No matter how much she prays to me, I can't even cure a cold though.

Diablo calmly nodded.

"Fuu.....If it is you, then it should be possible. Ah—.....Um.....Do not mind me, and do it as you normally would."

"Yes!"

Lumachina nodded with eyes full of confidence.

The mother asked as if she were imploring her.

"Could it be that your great self, is a Priest-sama.....?"

"I am only a novice though....."

Despite being on top of the sand, the mother respectfully lowered her head.

"I beg you! I beg of you, save this child!"

"I understand. Let us pray together. Kami-sama will surely save him."

"P, please!"

"Yes!"

Lumachina knelt in front of the baby.

She recited words of prayer.

"O great God in heaven, grant this request for salvation. Heal the evil illness that plagues this child. Grant magnanimous mercy for this child's sin, and allow him life....."

The mother put her hands together and trembled.

Even the people of the town that were watching in the vicinity knelt down one after another and put their hands together.

Even Rem and Shera did so.

Diablo started to feel uncomfortable. With him being the only standing, he couldn't help but feel out of place.

However, kneeling down and praying was an action that was a bit different from his image of a Demon King. Moreover, for Lumachina, she believed that "he was God".

Diablo stepped away from the ring of prayer. He cooled off in the shadow of a stone built building.

"Fuu....."

"Aren't you going to pray?"

"Mu?"

The young Grasswalker boy came along. Going \*nihehe\*, he amiably laughed.

"Me, I'm called Horun. How about you, Danna?"

"I am Diablo, a Demon King of another world."

"Heh?"

He looked a bit surprised but.....maybe because he thought it was a joke or a nickname or something, he didn't look too deeply into it.

"Aren't you going to pray?"

"Me, I'm not good with things that deal with God. And I've never gone to the chapel."

The people of this world were deeply religious. Not having gone to the chapel was rare.

Horun made a wry smile.

"And they just take donations when you go. Me, I'm poor."

"Fumu....."

"Thinking I could earn a lot, I went through hardships and came all the way out to Zircon Tower but.....It isn't going all that well -ssu."

"So it would seem."

"That's why, Danna! Let's go to the dungeon!"

Diablo almost ended up nodding.

—It's dangerous to be deceived by his childish appearance. Since he's a Grasswalker, he might be older than me.

"I am busy right now."

Thinking about that Holy Knight Unit's attitude, and how they abandoned a child whose life was in danger and demanded donations, the Head of the Holy Knights can't be trusted.

It didn't seem that he could entrust Lumachina with him.

If that's the case, what should be done to protect her from the Cardinal Institute?

"Nn?"

Feeling some powerful magical power, he turned his head.

So it was the effect of Lumachina's prayer. A pillar of light reached the heavens. That brilliance was even stronger than the last time he saw it.

The effect rose because a large number of people participated in the prayer, is that how it was?

Horun tilted his head in wonder.

"Is there, something in the sky?"

"No....."

It seems that pillar can't be seen by normal people.

Going \*WAH!\*, the prayer ring erupted in cheers.

"We did it!""The nevi have vanished!""That's incredible!"

The Pantherian mother hugged her child tight, and lowered her head with enough vigor that she buried her forehead in the sand.

"Thank you very much! Thank you very much! Thank you very much!"

The baby cried. It was a healthy crying voice.

Lumachina wiped the sweat from her brow.

"Thank goodness. Truly."

Rem and Shera exchanged smiles.

".....As expected of her."

"We did it!"

The voices of praise from the people of the town didn't stop. Someone started singing a religious song, and then it turned into a chorus.

—That's great!

The corners of Diablo's mouth spontaneously slackened.

Horun was bewildered and his mouth was agape.

"Incredible!? Even though it would take several hours of prayer even for the priest of the Church for the nevi to finally start decreasing!? Was it really cured!? Th, that girl, she's amazing, ain't she! She's a true priest!"

"Fuu.....It's natural that she could do at least that much."

Since even the local priest could heal it, then it can be healed by the High Chief Priest—is what he had thought, but there was also the possibility that some unique trick, or some special knowledge and tools were required.

It was a relief that she could heal it properly.

—With things being fine over there, the problem is over here.

Diablo turned his gaze towards the end of the road.

"So they've come."

Horun made a startled face.

"Ueh!? They've already come!? D, Danna and everyone, you'd best hurry up and run -ssu yo!"

With the guy that was blown away earlier at the lead, a pack of Holy Knight Unit members came running.

So there were around twenty of them.

Diablo stood in the middle of the street to greet them.

"Oi, Horun or whatever.....Get away from here if you don't want to get dragged in....."

He was already gone.

—He's fast at running away!

As expected of a Grasswalker. Although they were weak and fragile, their race

trait was that covert actions were their forte and that they had high agility.  
"Well, not having anyone in the vicinity makes it easier to fight, so this is perfect."  
Diablo prepared his 《Staff of Tenma》.

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## Part 5

He would kick about another approximately twenty Holy Knight Unit members. He had predicted that sort of course of events but.....

—What the heck is going on?

The people of the town created a wall in front of Diablo's group. They were the group that had prayed together with Lumachina just a little while ago.

The wall of people stood in front of the Holy Knight Unit's way.

All of them had faces full of determination.

"The Holy Knight Unit should get out of here!" "That's right, that's right!" "We won't let you meddle with these people!"

Diablo was amazed.

So this was the influence of the High Chief Priest!

To think that she could make the surrounding common people into her own personal followers with just a single prayer.

They didn't know about Lumachina's status. They simply felt adoration by her actions, and now they had become a shield in order to protect her from the ruffian Holy Knight Unit.

Even though they didn't even carry any weapons.

—So they would even risk their lives for people that they had just met. This in itself is a cheat power. If this was material for the founding of a nation, wouldn't this be too easy and not make it much of a story? Well, it's no wonder that she has enough authority as the king.

This was a great difference from Diablo who couldn't even make one friend, let alone a party, no matter how much he raised his military gains.

If they were to withdraw from repeatedly being told "Get out!" by the common people, the Holy Knight Unit wouldn't have been appraised as "bandit-like".

A huge guy that had a wide girth even among those guys came forward. He was a Pantherian, but he looked more like a bear than a panther.

"Gufufu.....Well ain't this funny.....I don't know what happened but.....I'll make y'all remember the Church's authority!"

He carried a spear that was longer than his stature.

It was a jousting lance.

It was a spear that was originally meant to be used while straddling a horse, and not something to be handled on foot. He wielded it like it was a club.

He couldn't tell without seeing him fight first but.....It didn't seem he was an opponent that he could hold back against.

There wasn't anyone that had the appearance of a Holy Knight. So this meant that the Head of the Holy Knights didn't come.

—Now then, what should I do?

The ordinary people had created a wall between Diablo's group and the Holy Knight Unit.

He was happy about their strong spirit to become their shield, but they would get dragged into his magic like this.

—It'll take a bit of time but, should I use 《Volcanic Wall》? A wall of flames would be created between the ordinary people and the Holy Knight Unit with that.

And on top of that, should he use 《Burst Rain》 only on the enemy's side?

Would that kill them if it's a direct hit?

From the enemy's HP and POW (Magic Defense Power) that he could guess, he calculated the damage.

The alarm bell was struck.

Both the Holy Knight Unit members that glared at them and the ordinary people became noisy.

—Did something happen!?

Somebody shouted.

"It's a Demonic Beast! An extra-large.....Demonic Beast!! It's a 《Sand Whale》!!"

Those were words equivalent to announcing a great disaster.

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## Part 6

There was a sand ship that was referred to as 《Galleon Class》 that more than a hundred people could board. Three masts that had three sails each and were sixty meters in height were erected.

That large sand ship had all sails unfurled, and was sailing at full speed.

It was escaping.

There were large crossbows that could be drawn with a handle placed on the deck of the ship, but there was no one that tried to shoot at the thing that was chasing them. It was because that would be pointless.

They could no longer do anything but pray to the wind and the Gods.

The large 《Galleon Class》 sand ship, which was many times bigger than the sand ship that Diablo's group came on—A monster several times more gigantic than that sand ship was chasing after it while raising up the sand.

What was swimming through the sand sea was a light brown whale.

Its surface was hard like stone. It was said that it had a strength that rival even dragon scales and that the weapons of the Races couldn't make even a single scratch on it.

Its overall length exceeded 300 meters.

The size of its mouth boasted of being the largest class among all monsters.

If it were to plunge into a town, a great number of people would probably get eaten along with whole buildings.

It was an extra-large Demonic Beast that stood in line with Green Behemoths and Sea Serpents. Its size could be expressed as being as big as an entire mountain, or an entire island.

Whether they were the people of the town or the Holy Knight Unit, it didn't matter anymore.

Shrieks, roars, and screams flew about.

"Why are they heading towards the town!?" "We can only run away!" "Where to!? We won't make in time anymore!" "If it's the Head of the Holy Knights-sama, then!" "Get Feudal Lord-sama!" "Hurry up and go call somebody!" "Ahh, it's gotten that close! It's already impossible——!!"

It seemed that they thought either the Head of the Holy Knights Baduta or

Zircon Tower's Feudal Lord could somehow do something about it.  
It was considerably close. The shape of the 《Sand Whale》 could be seen clearly.  
It probably wouldn't take even ten minutes for it to reach the town.  
Those with good eyes glared at the horizon.  
"Goddamnit! Some idiot is heading to town with a sand ship!"  
"Are they running away to get here!?"  
"They're deviating a bit! They're planning on pushing the Demonic Beast off on the town and saving themselves!"  
"What was that—!?"  
That sort of conversation could be heard.  
The sand on the ground repeatedly shook. The earth tremors were being transmitted.  
Was it because the 《Sand Whale》 was approaching? This sort of scenario was something that couldn't be experienced in the game.  
Rem and Shera rushed over to him.  
"D, Diablo, what shall we do!?"  
"Uwa—n! What do we do!? What do we do!? What do we do—!?"  
Lumachina was also together with them. Her lips were firmly kept closed, but it could be understood that she was feeling fear from how her knees were repeatedly trembling.  
Even though they knew that it was impossible in their head, the people started to run away. Since the 《Sand Whale》 was approaching from the east, everyone ran away to the west.  
—If I used the Flight Magic that I was practicing not too long ago, at least we would be able to escape, but.....  
People had unsteadily gathered around Lumachina.  
Around thirty people had knelt down and started praying.  
"Kami-sama.....""Save us.....""Please.....Kami-sama....."  
Lumachina was bewildered.  
Even she didn't know what she should do.  
With a situation that could be described as a great disaster happening this abruptly, that probably couldn't be helped.  
Diablo breathed a sigh.  
—This is why I can't help but dislike religion. When something too difficult to

deal with happens, they immediately rely on the Gods.

He thought that even if nothing can be done with only a single person's strength, there were various things that they could do, like put their strengths together or find someone that they could rely on.

Even if they did know that it was futile, the people that ran away to the west were better.

—My reason for thinking that might be because I was raised in Japan where the religious atmosphere was thin though.

At any rate, abandoning these people and having only themselves run away with Flight Magic was out of the question. Lumachina probably wouldn't consent to that anyway.

Diablo took a step on the sand.

He glared at the 《Sand Whale》. It was steadily getting closer while raising a cloud of sand.

—There's no other way, I guess I'll do it!

"Rem!"

"Y, yes!"

"I will be using a multiplex magic from here on out. Be vigilant of the surroundings! The few openings made will be big after all."

".....I understand. I will bring out Summoned Beasts that will serve as shields."

"Shera, you protect Lumachina. Absolutely do not let any suspicious people get near. Shoot them."

"Got it, I'll do my best! I, I'll also keep watch on the surroundings with 《Turkey Shot》!"

The followers (it was probably fine to describe them as such) that were around Lumachina were offering their prayers. He didn't think that they would get too close, but this was for caution's sake.

Shera took hold of her black bow and stood beside Lumachina.

In the sky, the round, plump bird Summoned Beast, the 《Turkey Shot》 was flying. It was slow and weak, but it had the ability to monitor things from the sky.

Rem had her 《Stone Golem》 and her newly acquired 《Iron Gorilla》 lined up. They served excellently as shields.

Diablo concentrated on the target.

His hands trembled.

—Damn.....I'm nervous.

After all, this was a magic spell that he used even less than the 《Apocalypse Abyss》 spell from the Demon King Krebskrum battle. Being unable to even move until it was invoked, couldn't use other magic spells.

Although he had learned it because its might was large, Diablo, who specialized in independent action, didn't have many chances to use it.

—Can I use an unfamiliar magic in this world?

He remembered when he first fired magic when he had just been summoned. His heart rate increased.

Diablo pointed the 《Staff of Tenma》 towards the target and took his fighting stance.

—Multiplex Magic!

Putting together three maximum magic spells, he would fire them off as a single magic spell. The opening created from the preparation was excessively long, and if he were to receive damage, the spell would be interrupted and result only in his MP being drastically consumed.

Moreover, since it was treated as a 《Special Skill》, it couldn't be used in succession. Even if he wasn't able to activate it this time, the next time he could attempt it would be quite a time after.

In other words, it was a one-shot game.

Diablo casted the first of the three magic spells.

"O darkness yielded from the blackest night, congregate into an arc.....《Dark Arc Seek》"

With the tip of the staff as the center, a black light started to spread up and down.

It was similar to the black bow that Shera possessed, but its size was in a different league. The bottom half went inside of the ground.

Even just the upper half was several times bigger than Diablo's height.

"O nihility that engulfs all of creation, come forth in my hand.....《Black Hole Arrow》"

A black sphere was born at the tip of the staff.  
It was a hole.

It was a hole that swallowed anything and everything including light.

The earth tremors became bigger, and tents finally started to collapse. Even the stone made buildings started to get cracks.

The large sand ship that was running away passed at the town's side. It really was planning on pushing the 《Sand Whale》 off on the town and escaping. —Ignore them for now.

The Demonic Beast that was as big as a town was drawing near.

The 《Sand Whale》 opened up its mouth.

Diablo's heart rate skyrocketed. It aroused terror. His breath became rough. It was way too different from the image on a display!

—S, such a gigantic.....mountain-like monster, would magic fired from one individual even work on it!?

Doubt had risen to his head.

—No, don't waver! This is the same as when I first used magic! Believe in yourself! No, believe in Demon King Diablo! The current me, is Diablo! A Demon King of another world!!

He shouted.

"O arrow of nihility, pierce the linchpin that is at the boundary of heaven and earth! 《Gravity Abyss》!!"

The projectile that released a black radiance flew towards the large Demonic Beast.

The atmosphere trembled.

The crystallization of the three maximum magic spells— hit the tip of the 《Sand Whale》's nose.

The magic was invoked.

That sturdy skin was pulled into the black hole.

The strong skin that rivaled a dragon's skin crumpled and cracked. It was slurped and pulled into a hole small enough that it couldn't be seen at a distance.

The Demonic Beast's forward movement stopped.

—Hell yeah! It was invokedddd——!!

While he was making a fist pump in his mind, Diablo glared at the magic with a cool-headed expression.

Before long, the reverse shock wave—the force that pulled things towards the magic, reached the town. It felt as if he was being pushed from behind.

Sand gathered towards the 《Sand Whale》.

Tents flew, and small articles tumbled over. Portions of broken stone walls also soared.

It looked like even people would be pulled into it, but the surrounding people extended their hands and grabbed them, and somehow brought them back.

The strong winds that were like a typhoon continued.

The sounds of something hard breaking happened consecutively. The 《Sand Whale》 fell into a miniscule hole.

The air trembled.

"OOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO———N!!"

Was that the large Demonic Beast's scream?

At any rate, it was enormous.

Just way too excessively big.

Even though it was about time for the magic's effect time to end, it still hadn't fallen.

Diablo considered another magic spells.

He couldn't use something similar to that just now for a while. When it came to other high power magic spells that felt like they would be effective on the 《Sand Whale》.....

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## Part 7

A flash came from a corner of the town.

Diablo noticed that an enormous amount of SP was put into it.

It was a long distance attack by means of a Martial Art.

Although he couldn't determine the move's name since he didn't know what weapon was being used, there was no doubt that it was a Martial Art.

Its might wasn't as strong as the Multiplex Magic 《Gravity Abyss》 that Diablo fired. A force strong enough to change the terrain with a single attack could only be with magic.

However, Warrior-types were able to use killer techniques continuously.

Flashes were fired in succession.

Damage was soundly being inflicted on the 《Sand Whale》 that had its charge stopped by Diablo's 《Gravity Abyss》 and had lost its armored nose tip.

Furthermore, a firing sound was raised from behind Zircon Tower.

A sound that felt like it reverberated in Diablo's gut—It was as if it were from a tank gun.

He felt sound not with his eardrums but with his skin.

Don! (Bang!)

—Don! (Bang!)

——Don! (Bang!)

It was done in succession.

And then, after about ten seconds, the 《Sand Whale》's body—exploded.

It were as if bombs were set inside of its hard skin, and those were exploding one after another. It was a spectacle that looked just like that.

Bon! (Boom!)

—Bon! (Boom!)

——Bon! (Boom!)

—This is.....Could it be a Magi Gun!

The High Class that Archers who strengthened their magical power could Class Change into was 《Magi Gunner》.

Even though he thought “could it be that they don't exist” in this other world

whose average level was low.....To think that one would be in a place like this. 《Magi Gunners》 used Magi Guns which were special equipment, and fired magic filled bullets.

Furthermore, by piling up magic spells at the time of firing, they were able to exhibit might that rivaled Chemical Elemental Magic despite being an Archer. In the MMORPG Cross Reverie, they were too strong at the time of implementation, and was a Class that was repeatedly nerfed.

The early Magi Gunners were cursed at with things like “broken performance”, “official cheat”, and “balance breaker”.

—If they exist in this world as the early version, they’ll be a bothersome opponent.

The air trembled once again.  
It was the 《Sand Whale》’s shriek.  
While writhing in pain, it sunk to the sand.  
—Was it defeated?

Or could it be that it ran away?  
Unlike the game, there wasn’t an announcement of the battle results, nor did he receive experience points and drop items.  
Because of that, he wasn’t able to confirm any military gains.  
However, the earth tremors became smaller.  
The feeling of oppression disappeared.  
It was certain that the 《Sand Whale》 had left from the town’s vicinity.

Diablo snorted his nose.  
"Hmph.....An unnecessary hindrance joined in."  
Rem wiped the tears that rose to the corner of her eyes.  
".....Truly.....You are.....tremendous."  
\*Dadadadada\* Shera rushed over to him. She clung onto him just like that.  
"You did it—!! Amazing! As expected of you! That was amazing, Diablo—!!"  
\*Gyuugyuu\* With her breasts being pushed up against him, his face felt like it would unconsciously loosen.  
—Not good! A Demon King doesn’t make a slovenly face just from being hugged by a boobie Elf!  
Clenching his teeth, he tore Shera off from himself.  
As he tried to push her away, his hand grabbed onto something soft.

Shera raised a nasally voice.

"Ahn.....Diablo, you perv."

—Th, that wasn't on purpose, you know!?

However, making excuses wasn't Demon King-like. Demon Kings do not get flustered with something like boobs. They do not get flustered! But, then, what should he do.....?

As he was in the middle of thinking, his fingers stayed grabbing on to Shera's breast, and would push a bit and would pull a bit.

The Elf's long ears became red even up to the tips.

"Ah, Nn.....Diablo.....You can't.....Even though we're outside.....Everyone, is watching, you knoww?"

—Then is it fine if we aren't outside!?

Rem tore Shera away.

"Just how long are you going to do that, how shameless!"

The soft sensation disappeared, and he felt lonely yet relieved.....

As if avoiding Rem's reproachful eyes, Diablo cleared his throat.

At any rate, it was great that the town was protected.

When he turned his gaze—

Lumachina was kneeling down with her hands together.

"Ahh, Kami-sama.....Thank you very much! You have my gratitude!"

Those words also looked like they were directed towards Diablo.

However, the people surrounding her couldn't possibly think that Lumachina was calling the Demon in front of her Kami-sama.

Turning to the sky and putting their hands together, they unanimously expressed words of gratitude.

The ordinary people might not even be able to understand that Diablo had used magic. After all, in this world, it was considered that "Chemical Elemental Magic is at the level of causing a soft breeze".

The Holy Knight Unit gang had remained.

Diablo shrugged his shoulders.

"Hnn, so you were still here."

"Uuu!?"

When he called out to them, they finally recovered from their stupefaction.

Looking at things from their perspective—A 《Sand Whale》 had appeared

abruptly, and they resigned themselves to death. However, the Magician that they were just about to try to fight against repelled that with a powerful Chemical Elemental Magic that they couldn't even imagine.

It wasn't unreasonable for them to freeze up from an excessive amount of surprise.

—Well, there was someone's Martial Arts and attacks from a Magi Gun there as well though.

Diablo turned the 《Staff of Tenma》 towards the Holy Knight Unit.

"I will say this now.....I will not hold back, understood? If you have resolved yourself to become ash, then take up your sword."

The bear-like Pantherian hurriedly threw down the jousting lance he had in his hand.

He got on his knees and lowered his head.

The other guys of the Holy Knight Unit did the same.

""W, we're really sorry—!!""

".....Umu."

It seemed that they understood the difference in strength.

Things didn't end with this.

In a certain meaning, a fellow more troublesome than the 《Sand Whale》 would appear.

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## Part 8

The one that galloped in on a horse, and got down from it was—  
A Holy Knight.

He wasn't one of those imposter-looking Holy Knight Unit members, but seemed to be a genuine Holy Knight. It was his recognizable armor.

And then, he possessed a spear tinged with enough magical power that it was overflowing with it.

He was a man at the prime of his life, and in terms of age, he was about the same as Faltra City's Feudal Lord Galford. He possessed a beard abundant enough to cover his chest.

He seemed like a Dwarf, but he probably a Human.

The Royal Capital was strong with racial discrimination, and it seemed that only Humans were appointed to important positions. There probably weren't any Dwarves among the Holy Knights.

The Holy Knight that had come along discovered Diablo—and his already grim-looking face became even more stern.

If Galford had an air of a "stern teacher", then this man felt like a "pigheaded boss".

That sort of Holy Knight opened his mouth.

"So it was you? The one that used the magic from before.....?"

Before Diablo could respond, the gang of Holy Knight Unit members jumped up.

"Oyabun!"<sup>[1]</sup>

Their arrogant attitude returned. The man that had been the first one that was blown away got cocky.

"Fu fu fu.....Oi, Magician! This is where your self-important attitude ends! I'll have you know, this person is the Head of the Holy Knights, Baduta-sama, got it! How about that!"

"As I thought, so it is him."

Diablo was half disappointed. To think that the Holy Knight that they had gone through the trouble of coming here to meet was the boss of such a bandit-like group.

Baduta kept silent.

Come to think of it, he did ask a question, didn't he.

Diablo shrugged his shoulders.

"If by magic from before, you mean the one that was launched at the 《Sand Whale》, then that certainly was my magic. Same to you, were you not the one that fired off some sort of Martial Art?"

"Affirmative. That was my 《Seven Star Blast》 -de aru."

"Mu!?"

—A level 130 Martial Art!?

There was a difference in their parameters but depending on the situation and the fight, there was the possibility that he could surpass the level 150 Diablo. It was that sort of level difference.

If they were to fight in the current situation where his MP has decreased, he predicted that it would be a considerably hard fight.

His hands were moist with sweat. It was nervousness that he felt for the first time in a long time.

The guys of the Holy Knight Unit made triumphant looks.

"Kneel down, Magician! Your head is too high! To use such unreserved speech with Head of the Holy Knights Baduta-sama, even if God forgives you, we will not!"

"Tsk....."

The guys of the Holy Knight Unit went into ecstasy, and became even more carried away.

In a world where something like level 50 was "the best in town", Baduta was higher than level 130. The Holy Knight Unit misunderstood and thought "our boss is peerless".

It didn't look like they could avoid a fight.

As they were glaring at each other, Lumachina came up to Diablo's side.

—Oi oi, that's dangerous, you know?

"Is this person the Head of the Holy Knights, Baduta?"

The Holy Knight Unit man's eyes became bloodshot, and he yelled.

"You need to prostrate yourself before him, woman!!"

She was yelled at but—Lumachina ignored him. She gazed only at Baduta.

"What is the meaning of this, Head of the Holy Knights? What is this Holy Knight "Unit" that these people claim to be? I do not remember allowing such a thing.

Did the Cardinal Institution authorize this? Or could it be that you created it all on your own?"

Baduta made a puzzled face at her way of speaking.

He stared at her.

Beads of sweat then fell down from his forehead.

"Y.....you are....."

The Holy Knight Unit man drew his sword.

"Oyabun, please leave her to us! We'll teach these guys a bit on the attitude they should have towards the Head of the Holy Knights-sama!"

".....Could it be.....you? Is your great self the High Chief Priest!?"

"I believe this should be my first time meeting you?"

"In the time of your childhood, I had seen you only once! An h-honorable person that possesses such divine light, there should not be two such people in this world!"

"Is that so, at the time of my childhood.....Please pardon my discourtesy."

Lumachina put both of her hands together.

A shining holy symbol floated in front of her chest.

The light, from which warmth could be felt from, spread to the surroundings.

The people of the town that had taken their distance from the situation going on here leaked out voices going "Ooh.....", and put their hands together and knelt down.

"O God.....""That honorable person is, the High Chief Priest.....""How sacred....."

Whispering voices could be heard.

Baduta also got to his knees.

"I, I am terribly sorry! I have no ways of showing apologies for the many impolite actions done to you!"

"WHA!? EH!? EH!? EH!?"

Seeing their own Oyabun lower his head, the guys of the Holy Knight Unit were completely bewildered. They looked at Lumachina several times.

Baduta raised his voice at just how bad at making judgements they were.

"You insolent fellows! Be aware of just who this honorable person is, is that understood!? She is the saint that announces the honorable voice of the great God to the entire Church—The High Chief Priest Lumachina Weselia,

understood!? Your heads are too high! You fools, would you just prostrate yourselves before her!!"

"Hiiii!?"

It seemed that they were more frightened from Baduta's menacing look than the meaning of his words.

The guys of the Holy Knight Unit placed both hands on the ground and rubbed their foreheads in the sand.

Lumachina breathed a sigh.

"Kami-sama is watching.....He would surely desire for you to extend your hands to the people seeking salvation instead of lowering your heads towards me."

"Ugh!? Ha.....Hahi....."

A man's breathing was abnormally rough. He was dripping large drops of sweat, and his body was trembling.

It seemed that they finally realized who they were trying to do something to.

—This is one of those reap what you sow things. This will be good medicine for them.

Diablo sneered at them.

Rem and Shera got close to him on his left and right.

".....That was a bit, satisfying."

"Ahaha, same here—"

He couldn't deny that.

Rem tilted her head.

".....Does this mean that our escorting, ends with this?"

"Doesn't it look fine if it's that person?"

Diablo left that question unanswered.

### **Translator's Notes:**

[\[1\]](#)

A way of saying boss. Often used in crime syndicates, though not limited to that.

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## Part 9

"It looks like an interesting guest has come, doesn't it, swindlers?"

"Muh!?"

Baduta readied his spear and looked up overhead.

Diablo also glared that way.

There was someone standing still in the sky.

Having no foothold whatsoever, they were in the sky. Their red mantle fluttered in the wind.

—Is that the 《Deep Crimson Wings》!?

It was equipment that was just as rare as the 《Curtain of Dark Clouds》 that Diablo had equipped. It was bestowed with the effect of 《Flight Magic》. They shouldered a gigantic gun that was likely to be about their height in length.

—That guy, could it be, they're the 《Magi Gunner》 from before!?

Baduta shouted.

"It is fine if those words are directed at me! However, if you are insulting this honorable person, consider that head of yours gone! Lamnites!"<sup>[1]</sup>

"Add a “-sama” to that, you damned swindler."

Diablo only realised it now.

—A woman's voice!?

That person that wore the vivid red mantle came down from the sky.

As he thought, it was a woman.

\*Fuwa\* Her feet touched the sand. She handled the 《Deep Crimson Wings》 perfectly.

She was a woman glowing with sex appeal.

She looked to be the same age as Diablo.

And then, she was similarly self-important and arrogant.

Making only a single glance at Baduta, she turned her gaze to Lumachina.

"I (Yo), am the master that governs this Zircon Tower—Farnis Lamnites<sup>[2]</sup>. Are you the High Chief Priest?"<sup>[3]</sup>

Her scarlet lips faintly curved.

Diablo felt a sense of discomfort from her speech and conduct.  
Rem whispered into his ear.  
".....This person, calling herself with “yo”, and “master (aruji)” .....It seems that she considers herself not as the Feudal Lord but as a king."  
"Hnn, I see."  
Faltra City’s Feudal Lord Galford was self-important, but he had an attitude of being in court service.



Lamnites' attitude was that of a king himself.  
—A setting where such a strong person was the Feudal Lord wasn't in the game

though?

Lumachina put her hands together.

"It is just as you say, I am Lumachina Weselia, the High Chief Priest. Nice to meet you, Feudal Lord Farnis Lamnites."

"Fu.....To think that the big boss of the swindlers, would be such a young girl."

"What would you mean by, swindlers?"

"Even though you can't do anything significant, you demand nothing but donations. I will not tolerate parasites in my territory. It means I do not approve of your religion."

"EH!?"

"If you pay the taxes, I will allow you to do business though."

"Just what are you saying!? The Lifelia King Dalesh Sandros should have decreed that building the chapel was the Feudal Lord's duty, and that the Church would be tax free....."

"Hahn! As if I care about that coward's incompetence! If he has any complaints about me, the king should try coming all the way out here!"

—I see, so the current Lifelia King has never come to the former Demon King territory which has been judged as dangerous. And so, the Feudal Lord's rampage couldn't be stopped.

Moreover, Lamnites' strength was suitable for her attitude.

Taking a guess from her earlier attack through the use of her Magi Gun and her relationship with Baduta, it was certain that she was over level 100.

In the game, even if his opponent was a party of six level 150 Players, Diablo was able to win.

However, that was because there was compensation due to the difference of numbers, and above all, it was because he used a countless number of items. He has already used up all of the rare potions that were in his pouch.

—I'm also interested in what kind of specifications the 《Magi Gunners》 of this world have. While I don't know that, I can't carelessly fight against her.

The foundation of 《Magi Gunners》 is "once they fire a bullet with a magic spell enclosed in it, that magic spell activates".

With the initial specifications, they were able to rapid-fire as much as they liked. Although the bullets were consumable goods, the destructive power per unit of time was in such a different league that the game balance was broken.

Diablo had also been tormented by the pay-to-win Players' "banknote stack smacks".

—That reminds me, there was a Ranker that blindly fired a doubled barrelled Magi Gun that excessively focused on might, wasn't there. It was dangerous since they shaved off about half my HP in an instant. Though I did annihilate them since they were a couple that had a 《Wedding Ring》 on!

Several adjustments were made, and in the most recent version, the Magi Gun's rapid-fire ability was made more moderate, and its might also received a drastic nerf.

Even so, since there wasn't any MP consumption during battle, it was plenty strong—is what Diablo thought.

Lumachina replied to her.

"I understand that you have an opinion about the Lifelia King. However, aren't the people of your fief suffering?"

"That is because these swindlers here are demanding unreasonable donations." Having the conversation place on him, Baduta grimaced.

"After having the chapel confiscated, and having to pay the tax one way or another, I had no choice but to seek donations from the followers. Even Priests have livelihoods to sustain after all."

"Hnn.....Wasn't God supposed to produce bread and wine?"

"Th, that is....."

Lumachina shook her head left and right.

"Even if it's possible for Kami-sama, it is impossible for people to do. We are people that believe in Kami-sama and no Kami-sama himself."

"Hohou? So you are sermoning me.....These High Chief Priests or whatever are quite remarkable, aren't they. If you are that remarkable, let's test out if you truly have God's divine protection!"

Lamnites readied her shouldered Magi Gun.

She turned it towards Lumachina.

"What are you.....!?"

"Tsk!"

Diablo was about to use magic.

As he thought, it was the Warrior-type's time to shine when it came to short distances. Baduta had thrust out his spear faster than him.

"You damned insolent fool!"

The spearhead struck empty space.

Lamnites landed in a spot ten steps away.

Fast.

Before Diablo could fire his magic, Baduta had thrust his spear, and Lamnites had jumped backwards.

—These guys, they're strong.

It was a speed that made him admire them.

Lamnites let out a loud laughter.

"A—hahaha! In the end, even you all don't believe in your God! That is why you tried to protect the High Chief Priest. If there truly was a God, wouldn't God have protected her even if you did nothing!?"

"That is sophistry!"

Baduta howled.

Diablo ended up secretly agreeing.

Lumachina shook her head left and right.

"You are misunderstanding Kami-sama to be "some kind of powerful armor or something". With such shallow understanding, you do not have the qualifications to talk about anything."

"I.....am misunderstanding? Did you say, shallow!?"

She scowled.

However, Lumachina was composed.

"Listen well—Kami-sama watches things on the grand scale. If you commit a misdeed, eventually, the rebounding calamity will return to you.....Or to your descendants. However, let us say for instance that you shot me right now and I died—That might be because my sin had been judged. I might have been called to Kami-sama's side. It is impossible for people to understand Kami-sama's doings."

Lumachina had turned her gaze this way for only an instant.

—I see, since she had the ideology that "God cannot be understood", is that why she accepted such an absurd "setting"?

No, judging from her speech and conduct, Lumachina is smart.

Isn't it about time for her to notice his lie? In that case, just how much has she realized?

Could it be that she got as far as knowing that Diablo was a shut-in gamer that was only doing a Demon King role play!?

No, no, that's impossible.....

He was bad with people whose depths couldn't be read.

Lamnites snorted.

"Hnn.....In that case, the ones that rely on something like that are morons! Are there guys that rely on arms with uncertain movements on the battlefield? The calamity will eventually return you say? How stupid! You simply have to strike back at that calamity or whatever."

"It isn't that sort of....."

"You all, you take advantage of the insecurities of the masses, and are swindlers that only pluck their money."

"The healing and miracles of good harvests certainly are there, you know?"

"It is fine for those that have a use to receive proper compensation. I acknowledge that because it is a business. But that is only if they properly pay the taxes!"

Lumachina breathed a sigh.

The conversation between her, who was deeply pious, and the completely utilitarian Lamnites did nothing but follow parallel lines.

If it went on too long, the Magi Gun would be turned towards her again.

Baduta went between them.

"Lumachina-sama, leave it at this for today. Lamnites, we haven't used the chapel, nor have we done any tax evasions. I don't believe we have done any faults to be reproached by the Feudal Lord, have we?"

"Hmph.....To begin with, I had no business with you. Even that High Chief Priest over there was just an extra. The reason that I brought myself over here for was, to search for "the fellow that used strange magic" on the colossal Demonic Beast from before."

—So it was me!!

Diablo instinctively made a displeased face.

Considering Lamnites' speech and conduct, it looked like things would become troublesome no matter how things fell.

Baduta swung his head to the side with a fine performance.

"I also came here to search for them but.....There is no one that knows about

it."

"Hoho～u?"

Lamnites' eyes were fixed on Diablo.

He felt like he would unconsciously avert his gaze. It felt like being glared at by a bad-looking guy in town. Such a weak attitude wasn't Demon King-like.

So instead, he glared back.

"You, what do you plan on doing once you find that Magician?"

The ends of Lamnites' lips curved into a grin.

"If they're a useful fellow, I will make them my subordinate! If they won't obey me, then I thought I would teach them the difference in our strength!"

"You damned troublesome fellow."

He unintentionally let his true feelings leak out.

He thought she might get mad, but surprisingly, Lamnites smiled looking delighted.

"Fufufu.....If they were such a powerful person, they would eventually stand before me."

—I'm already standing here though.

She had most likely noticed.

However, Lamnites stopped the conversation. She turned her gaze towards the west.

"It seems that my subordinates have caught the sand ship that did such a foolish act. Let's end the conversation at this. We shall continue another day."

She kicked up sand, and flew into the sky.

She flew towards the west of Zircon Tower City.

Rem talked with an exhausted voice.

".....Fuu.....It seems that you've caught the eye of quite a troublesome person."

"Don't say that. It will make you all the more tired."

Diablo shrugged his shoulders.

Shera happily laughed.

"She was a person who said things that I didn't really get."

—I want to follow her example, being so carefree.

Baduta once again knelt to Lumachina.

"Once again, I would like to apologize for the numerous impolite events. It seems that it was also due to my subordinates' ineptitude. Please, would you

allow me to invite you to my residence?"

"Thank you. I also have something to talk to you about."

"I will immediately prepare a sand sleigh."

Diablo's group—Or rather, they were treated as Lumachina and her attendants, got on board a camel drawn sleigh.

They headed towards the northern side of town.

### **Translator's Notes:**

[1] Pronounced Lam-ni-tes.

[2] Original: ファニス・ラムニテス

[3]

She refers to herself with “yo” 余, a kingly way of saying “I” or “me”

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## Part 10

A gentle time continued for a while.

The camel kicked sand away with its thick legs.

Since the wheels of a carriage would sink, it seemed that sand sleighs were used here.

Baduta grasped the reins, and Diablo's group of four sat in seats.

There was a large building facing the main street.

It was made of stone just like the other buildings in the vicinity, but it had a solid flagstone base, and a belfry towered above it.

Even though it was in the middle of the desert, stained glass was set in the walls.

It was a splendid chapel.

However, local knights surrounded its vicinity. They were keeping watch so that no one would approach it.

Lumachina put a hand to her mouth.

"Is that, the chapel?"

"Yes. Though, it was shut down by Lamnites' instructions....."

Baduta answered her.

The Feudal Lord branded the Church as swindlers, and did not allow them even a single privilege.

"Why would she go as far as shutting it down....."

"That chapel is originally something that the previous Feudal Lord constructed in accordance with the King's decree. Therefore, its ownership is in the hands of the Feudal Lord. If we are to use it, pay the rent—That is what she told us. It was the market price amount but.....it was much too high to pay from donations....."

"And that is why it isn't being used."

"There were voices from the townspeople saying that they wanted to make use of the chapel but.....As you saw, Lamnites has that sort of personality."

"How troubling."

Lumachina cast her eyes down.

Rem muttered.

".....I have never heard of a Feudal Lord that would say such things towards the Church. However, paying rent in order to use it is a requirement that I can agree with."

"That's true—"

Shera nodded.

".....How was the Church in your homeland, the Greenwood Kingdom?"

"Eh? I guess there was the Sacred Tree?"

".....Erm.....What about the Priest's bedroom?"

"They slept in their own house. The current Priest-san's real job is a tea shopkeeper. It's like they become the Priest-san only when there is a festival or when prayers are needed."

".....Is that adequate for them?"

"Pretty much—"

Since they weren't exactly meshing together in their conversation, Diablo cut into the conversation.

"The reason why it was enough for the job of Priest to be done as a side job is because the population of the Greenwood Kingdom is low, and there aren't many important ceremonial occasions there. Seeing as how Elves live long lives, their birth rate is proportionately low."

".....I see. So that is why being Priest can be done as a side job."

"In the Lifelia Kingdom, the Church does not only deal with prayers, but is also entrusted with money, and possesses the function of educating children. Even if they share the same name of being a Church, the duties differ according to the country's population and systems. It just means that there is no use in simply comparing them."

".....As expected of you, Diablo. It is surprising how high your level of discernment is."

"This is normal."

".....It is embarrassing but, I only know of Faltra City and several of the neighboring towns. I have never gone outside of the Lifelia Kingdom after all."

"Fumu, I see."

In this world, there was no TV or Internet, and the price of books was also high. Even the knowledge on politics and economics that Diablo thought was common sense, the chance to study those was valuable.

Lumachina made an inquiry to Baduta.

"Aren't you unable to do any divine services or anything with the chapel being shut down?"

"We have constructed a tent on the northern side of town in place of the chapel."

"May I have you show it to me?"

".....It will be somewhat of a, detour. How about after taking a rest?"

"Right now, please."

"I understand."

Honestly, maybe because of the MP consumption, Diablo felt like he wanted to hurry up and eat a meal and dive into a bed. However, he also understood Lumachina's feelings.

Keeping silent, he rocked in the seat of the sand sleigh.

Zircon Tower was a small town when compared to Faltra City. Without taking much time, they arrived at the northern side.

Several small tents were constructed. There were about 100 of them.

Lumachina rose up a bit.

"This is, all of them?"

"About half of them. The other half are ones that Adventurers and merchants built."

"Even so, that is a lot."

"There isn't enough but.....I am sorry, Lumachina-sama. If we get any closer than this, there will be a problem in one way or another."

"What is it?"

The sand sleigh turned around.

Baduta pointed.

"That is, the line to wait for prayers but....."

In front of a tent that was a size bigger, a line of around 3000 people was made. It had adults and children, men and women, Humans, Elves, Dwarves, Pantherians, and Grasswalkers.

"Because of the earlier 《Sand Whale》 turmoil, it is currently quite large. Normally, it would be around 1000 people."

"Are there that many followers that would wait like that?"

"There are also people that need to offer their prayers even if they have to wait

a whole day. Since the night is quite cold, we tell them to come again the next morning but.....most of them don't leave the line."

"Why, has it become like this!?"

"This place is former Demon King territory, and it isn't rare for Demonic Beasts like the one from before to appear. There is no barrier to protect the town either. There are few Priests that come out here, and there are many people that need them. Because of that, the line is created like that."

".....Is that so."

Lumachina nodded.

Diablo sent his gaze around.

As he did, there were about three people lined up at a tent in a slightly separated spot. They were dressed up quite nicely.

"Hnn.....Answer me, is that also a line it awaiting prayer?"

".....It is."

Baduta nodded with a reluctant look.

Lumachina tilted her head.

"What is the meaning of this?"

"That is the line only for those that make large sum donations. Lumachina-sama, I ask that you listen to me so that you do not misunderstand. There are not enough Priests, and this place is dangerous region. We are unable to respond to all those that seek prayer. It is only natural to prioritize followers who strongly require it enough to offer up much larger donations."

"....."

Lumachina cast her eyes downward in thought.

She was smart. She understood that she could not arbitrarily decide that Baduta was corrupt.

Shera frowned.

"Isn't that just weird!? Isn't it fine if you make prayers starting from the people that came first!?"

".....Then what would you do if those that had no choice but to rush got belated treatment because of the people that weren't in that big of a rush?"

Rem answered with a low voice.

"U—n, it's a bit pitiable but, isn't it fair to keep the order of who lined up faster?"

".....That is giving favorable treatment to those who have time. Can you say that it is fair that hard workers that give up their assets get a cold reception more than people that don't work and give up their time?"

"Ah, u—m"

".....For the Church, they are happier with getting large donations more than having others line up faster. That's why they show favorable treatment to those that make large donations than those that line up faster."

Rem's comprehension was appropriate.

And then, the reason why Lumachina was groaning was most likely due to the case of the mother and child from earlier.

Even in the line of 3000 people, a fair amount of donations was demanded, and there were people that couldn't even pay that.

Be that as it may, would it be appropriate to say that do Baduta right now?

There was the fundamental problem of there not being enough Priests. It wasn't something that could be solved with a single honest opinion.

And then, she had come seeking protection from the Cardinal Institution.

—A virtuous person isn't suited for being a manager.

Diablo talked.

"This is enough, is it not? I have grown tired of looking at lines of followers."

Appearing to not want to prolong the topic of the line, Baduta nodded.

"You must be tired from your long journey. Lumachina-sama and the people of her escort, it is modest, but we have prepared a place for you to eat and rest."

Going "Wa—i!\*", Shera raised both hands.

Putting the policies of the Church aside—He was honestly grateful for the meal and bed.

Lumachina muttered.

".....For 1000 people to line up regularly, that really is a bit too much."

## Part 11

They returned to the center of town from the crowds of tents.

They arrived at the building that Baduta and the Priests lived in.

"This is a place that a certain merchant rented out to us cheaply. He was a deeply religious man."

It had properly made stone walls and was fairly big. It was enough to think wouldn't it be fine to use this place as a chapel but.....

There wasn't a wide place for worship.

Its structure was that of a normal house.

There was a foyer and a lobby, and with the dining room and living room at the center, there were private rooms surrounding it.

The windows were closed so that sand wouldn't get in. Since it was dark because of that, the oil lamps that were hung from the ceiling were lit during the daytime. In this town, oil was easier to obtain than candles.

Pictures decorated the walls, and a white cloth covered the table.

It felt like he would forget that this was a town in the desert.

Around ten maids bowed deeply and greeted them. The one that stood at the head of the group was a beautiful maid with long black hair and a big chest. She was quite sexy. Her age was probably a bit above his own.

"Welcome, High Chief Priest Lumachina Weselia. I am the head maid, Shiiryuu. If you have any orders, please instruct us on whatever you may need."

"Okay."

Lumachina nodded. For her to be calm at a time like this, it made him think that she was a person of the upper class.

If he were greeted by a maid with "Please instruct use on whatever you may need", Diablo would get nervous.

The feeling that he got with 《Relief Inn》's poster girl, Mei-chan, was "like a maid cafe", but that was comfortable in its own way.

Come to think of it, was Krum doing well? It had been two weeks since they left, but no one has noticed her true identity, right? She isn't causing trouble to those around her, is she?

Was Edelgart serving her without any problems?

—If only there was a telephone or something.

They were guided to the dining room by the head maid Shiiryuu. Lumachina sat at the head of the table, and Baduta sat beside her. Diablo and the others were treated as guests. He had honestly thought they would receive underling treatment as her escort or attendants. Come to think of it, Baduta feigned ignorance when Lamnites was searching for the Magician.

Since they had brought Lumachina here and had repelled the 《Sand Whale》, were they surprisingly treating them with care?

—Well, I still don't know if we can trust in them just because of that.

Being in the middle of the desert, he wondered what sort of cuisine would come out but.....

It was a reddish legume soup.

—Th, this is!?

Lumachina and Baduta had put their hands together. Diablo and the others also did the same.

"O great God in heaven, we are grateful for today's blessing."

To pray before a meal, he had never done it before, but after they started travelling with Lumachina, it became a habit.

In her case, when she prayed, the rotten smell of old meat would vanish, and dirty rain water would turn into tasty fresh water so they didn't scorn her for it. It seemed that poison would also disappear.

He tried putting the red soup into his mouth with a silver spoon.

The inside of his brain went numb from the burning stimulus and the aroma of spices that came out from his nose.

—This is!!

"Spi—cy!"

Shera raised a scream.

Rem nodded.

".....It certainly is.....but it is delicious."

Diablo involuntarily raised his voice.

"It's curry! Rice too!"

It was an extremely nostalgic taste. Of course, it was quite different from the curry that the Japanese ate, but it was without a doubt curry.

Since there wasn't any viscosity, and the aroma of fresh leaves was strong, it was probably close to Thai curry.

The rice was crumbly and the grains were hard. When dipped into the soup, it became a food texture that was just right.

Baduta smiled.

"How do you like it, Lumachina-sama? It's quite different from the meals of the Royal Capital though."

"It is very delicious."

While she said that, she drank her third cup of water.

"Was it too spicy?"

"Y, yes, just a bit.....But, it is delicious."

In the end, Shera had three shares while going "spicy, spicy", and Diablo also ate five shares.

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## Part 12

After the meal—

As Diablo relaxed in the living room while drinking black tea, Lumachina came over together with Rem and Shera.

Seeming to have gotten Baduta prepare it, Lumachina had changed into her High Chief Priest outfit.

It was a loose robe with white and red as the basic tones.

The long cloth covered things down to her knees, but he was able to see wholesome skin from the gaps.

Her cheeks were faintly blushing, and she asked him a question.

"H, how do you like it?"

"Umu, it is good."

Diablo nodded.

Lumachina let out a smile, looking delighted.

Seeming that Rem and Shera helped her change clothes, they were happy.

Since her High Chief Priest outfit was already torn to pieces when he first met Lumachina, this was his first time seeing her like this.

He probably shouldn't be looking at her with such eyes but.....it was a pretty sexy-looking outfit.

—Nevertheless, to think that something like the “praise a girl on her clothes” event would happen in my life. I thought that only happened in gal games.

Suddenly, he noticed that Lumachina was holding down the back of her left hand with her right hand.

"Did something happen there?"

"Ah, it isn't anything much but....."

It was scraped and had turned red.

Rem added some words.

".....It seems that she fell over as she tried to bring back a person that looked like they were going to fly away during the time you fought against the 《Sand Whale》."

"I see. That is very Lumachina-like."

—How could this be, so it was because of my magic! I'm sorry!

She made an embarrassed grin.

"It doesn't hurt any more so it's fine."

"Can you not use healing miracles on yourself?"

"Ah.....Actually, healing and recovery miracles don't work on me. Even if I had someone pray for me, not even a little scratch would be healed."

"What was that!?"

"Normally, miracles would be effective even on the Priests themselves, but it doesn't work on me at all.....It is quite a mystery but.....I am sure that this is also part of Kami-sama's discretion."

—Is that compensation for being able to use powerful miracles? That is quite the constraint.

"What about healing potions?"

"I have used those when I got injured in the past. It worked properly."

"I see. Carry this."

Diablo took a potion tin out from his pouch and handed it over.

Lumachina's eyes went wide open. She accepted it with trembling hands. For her, it was a boon from Kami-sama.

"Th, thank you very much! I shall treasure it for my entire life!"

"No, you have to use it when you need it, you know?"

Diablo leaned his back on the chair.

Rem and the others also sat down. Shortly after, the maid Shiiryuu brought in several people's worth of black tea.

Four bedrooms were prepared.

Baduta guided them to the rooms.

It seemed that Lumachina, being the most valuable person, was assigned a special room which was the one furthest in the back of the building.

—This is good treatment, but it will be hard to deal with things when something happens if we're in separate rooms.

Diablo whispered into Rem's ear.

"Go along with her."

When she made a small nod, she stepped forward. She said this to Baduta.

".....I, have been told by Lumachina-sama to assist with her everyday necessities. I have no intention of obstructing the jobs of the maids of the estate, but would you permit me to stay in the same room as her for today?"

Lumachina also had good judgement.

"That's right! I will be troubled if I don't have Rem nearby."

Baduta looked up and down at Rem.

"The High Chief Priest has a slave?"

".....Th, that's wrong. I only had this attached from a summoning blunder, and I am a slave to no one."

Rem asserted that.

Lumachina also vouched for her saying "That's how it is".

The Head of the Holy Knights didn't doubt the High Chief Priest's words.

"Are you a Pantherian.....Adventurer? A Summoner?"

".....Yes."

"Normally, those that do not possess the qualifications as a Priest are not allowed to approach the High Chief Priest but.....This is a special case."

He was reluctant but he allowed it. He promised to put Rem's bed in Lumachina's room as well.

Diablo was relieved.

—For now, I guess I'll leave her to Rem for tonight.

Night—

Diablo had a water jug and tub brought to the room that he was assigned.

By sitting in the largish tub, and dashing the water over himself, the dirt would get washed off.

It was this world's somewhat extravagant bath. Normally, it was something that ended with just wiping the body with a wet cloth.

"There are times where I want to soak in a bathtub.....I wonder if I should make a bath soon?"

While thinking such a thing, he took off his clothes.

The door was knocked on.

He got subtly nervous.

"Who is it?"

"Ehehe.....Diablo, are you awake?"

"So it's Shera. Go ahead and enter."

Diablo sat cross-legged in the tub, and turned his back.

The door opened and she came in.

"Ah, you're taking a bath."

"Umu.....Have you already washed yourself?"

"Not yet."

To think that she came over without even washing off the long trip's sweat.

"Was there some kind of problem?"

"I, just can't calm down when I'm alone."

Come to think of it, Shera get lonely easily. Enough that she chose to be a Summoner with the reason of not liking to travel alone.

"Hmph.....Then just do as you like."

"Alright!"

\*Shuru\* The sound of cloth being rubbed was made.

Going "What was that?", Diablo turned around to look at her.

Shera had started taking her clothes off.

"Wh, what are you doing?"

"Eh? It's because I haven't taken a bath yet."

"I am using it right now though....."

It's time's like this that Shera becomes a princess, is what he thought. How she went at her own pace, how she didn't care about her surroundings.

"Then, let's us it together. I'll wash your back!"

—Nonono! To bathe together with a girl, forget washing off the sweat, I'll break into a cold sweat, you know!?

"S, something like that, I can do it on my own."

"You don't need to hold back."

"No, I am not holding back or anything....."

While he was saying that, Shera became naked.

She got into the tub.

"It's a bit packed?"

".....Ah, uh."

Her presence approached right behind him.

This wasn't the time for the Demon King role play. He was completely alone with a naked girl in the room.

He became unable to get words out from his throat.

In contrast, Shera seemed to be in a good mood as she hummed a tune.

"Nn~hnh~♪ Ah, where's the towel?"

".....There is none."

Come to think of it, he forgot to have one brought over.

As if he could call for a maid in this situation. He kind of wanted to avoid that.....No, was he worrying about it too much? Was men and women bathing together something normal in this world? That shouldn't.....

Since there wasn't any specifications for something like bathing in the game, he had absolutely no idea.

Shera talked sounding quite indifferent.

"Then, I'll wash you without using a towel, okay?"

".....Eh?"

"A person's skin becomes more smooth and shiny when washed with skin rather than using a cloth, you know?"

He had never heard of such a story.

However, he did think that Shera's skin was more smooth and beautiful than silk.

When she scooped out some water with her hand from the water jug, she gently stroked Diablo's back with that wet hand.

Being so soft and chilly, it felt good.

It was completely different from scrubbing with a wet towel.

"How is it, Diablo?"

"Ah, umu.....It's pretty good."

He was embarrassed about how the both of them were naked, but this was his first time having a bath that felt this good.

Shera put water on her own body as well.

"Ehehe, it's because I'm also covered in sand."

"That is probably inevitable in this region."

"I guess I'll clean us up in a way that will get us clean all at once."

"Nn?"

Right when he wondered what she was going to do, something soft glued itself to his back.

Water was poured right there.

Diablo stiffened up.

—Th, this thing pressing on my back, this is!?

Shera leaked out a nasally sigh.

"Nnu.....Diablo, your back, it's really rugged."

"Ah, uh....."

"Alright, I'm going to scrub you."

She moved her body up and down.

A soft sensation went up and down his back.

Diablo's heart rate increased. And then, Shera's heartbeat was also transmitted to him. Her body was becoming hotter.

"Hafuu.....Nn.....Diablo.....You're not pouring magic power out, right?"

"Y, you can tell just by looking, can't you."

"I wonder why? I'm, getting hot."

"Fuah!?"

He felt like he would let out a strange voice.

As his back was scrubbed with her chest and whispered to by an erotic voice that came right behind him, Diablo, who was inexperienced with women, couldn't keep his calm.

—A Demon King? What would a Demon King do at a time like this? A Demon King at a time where boobs were pressed up against his back and the girl had become hot!?

He had no recollection of such a Demon King.

Shera whispered.

"I'll wash the front, okay?"

"ツ!?"

—I can wash the front myself. No, is being reserved not Demon King-like? Which one is it!?

While he was unable to decide on how to reply to her, Shera's hands came around from the back as if to hug him and touched his chest.

With wet hands, she stroked his muscular chest.

"Nfuu.....Diablo, your body, it sure is hard. It's really, sturdy."

"It, it's because I'm level 150."

"I see."

What is this? Is there really a relationship between the two?

Was it about washing his body, or about some different act, he couldn't tell any more. While her bulges were pressed up on his back, her smooth hands caressed his chest.

She also touched the nape of his neck.

And then, her hands went down to his stomach.

Then even further down.

"Ah.....wai.....That, place is....."

Diablo's voice didn't turn into a sentence. He stopped his breathing.

Shera's hand touched a sensitive place.

"Nn? This part is also hard."

".....ツ!?"

"Is it a tail? Do Demons also have tails? Since it's this hard, is it a horn? Diablo, you do have horns on your head after all."

"You're kidding, right?"

"Erm.....I should wash this spot too, right? Nsho.....nsho....."

He could no longer let his voice out.

Only Shera's breathing and the sound of her hand wet with water sliding on skin could be heard. Every time she scrubbed, the heat inside Diablo's body rose.

An electric current ran deep in his brain.

"ツ!!"

\*Biku\* The fact that the muscles along his spine twitched was also transmitted to her.

"Ah.....Did it hurt? Was it too hard?"

".....No"

"Really? That's good—"

\*Gyuu\* Shera hugged him.

"Ehehe~, bathing together sure is fun!"

"Ah, right."

With his waist losing strength, even though he was bathing in cold water, it felt as if he was dizzy from spending too long in the bath.

—Having my body washed by hand, it's something that feels really good.

Because the air was dry, the wet skin dried right away.

Brushing off the sand, he put his clothes on and then lied on the bed.

Wearing sleepwear, Shera jumped in, and clung onto him tightly.

Diablo remembered what happened earlier, felt like he was going to blush, and averted his gaze.

"....."

"Diablo, it's been awhile since we did this."

"It's because we continued to sleep outside for a while. Quickly go to sleep."

"Un!"

He closed his eyes.

Since it was also due to the MP consumption, he immediately fell asleep.

If only such peace could continue forever.....

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## Interlude 2

The time before going to sleep—  
Lumachina's room.

Rem was inspecting her equipment on top of the bed that she was given. Storing her Summoned Beast crystals in her pouch, she put her knife and iron gauntlets near her pillow.

"....."

"Rem, thank you."

"What is it, Lumachina? Saying that so suddenly."

"Thanks to all of you, I was able to come here."

".....If you are going to give your thanks, give it to Diablo. If possible, please have the reward be in gold coins."

"Oh, that's right."

".....Well, that's only once the problem has been safely calmed down."

A presence was felt outside of the door.

Rem quickly put on her knife and iron gauntlets.

The Head of the Holy Knights Baduta had paid a visit. He held the candlestick of an oil lamp in his hand. Maybe because it was using vegetable oil, it had a faint flowery smell.

The size of the room, from end to end, was about ten steps big. The large bed for Lumachina and the small bed for Rem were there.

There was a chic, round table and two chairs.

There was a window, but it was closed, and hidden with a velvet curtain.

Rem was on top of her bed.

She stealthily summoned her 《Shadow Snake》, and had it hide in the bed's shadow.

It consumed MP, but the thing that needed to be avoided when going against a high level Warrior-type was the practitioner being defeated before making a summon.

—If I leave it like this, I should be able to take the first move even if something were to happen.

Even if she couldn't win, Diablo would notice if a disturbance were created. He

would come for sure.

Lumachina sat in a chair.

"Would you like to have a seat?"

She offered Baduta the other seat.

"Thank you very much."

Placing the candlestick on the table, he slowly sat down.

First, Baduta lowered his head.

"I apologise for coming by so late."

"I do not mind. Having provided us with meals, clothes, and bedrooms, you have really helped us. Thank you."

"I am happy if I were of assistance."

"I have something I must talk to you about."

"Yes. Since you had mentioned it before, I have come to inquire about it. I do believe that it would be best for outsiders to leave though.....?"

Baduta turned a cold gaze at Rem.

Lumachina controlled him with one hand.

"Rem can be trusted. Of course, the others as well."

"I do trust them as they had brought Lumachina-sama as far as the former Demon King territory but.....I understand. Well then.....Did something happen? For your ladyship, the High Chief Priest, to not have a Holy Knight escort, wear commoner's clothes, and come to a region such as this without any advance notice, what could have happened?"

"That is....."

Lumachina had a pensive look on her face.

After thinking for a while, she opened her mouth.

"Baduta, please answer the question I asked earlier. What is the Holy Knight Unit? Was it approved by someone?"

"I am terribly sorry. It is something that I had done on my own."

"Such a thing isn't allowed though?"

"I shall humbly accept any punishment. However, this is a dangerous land. A Priest cannot even walk around town alone. The danger has even reached their families."

"Is that true?"

"Seeing as how Priests are able to use God's miracles, cases where people that

try to force them to assist in exploring dungeons and where bandits that aim for their possessions appear more frequently than Demonic Beasts on the eastern side."

"I see."

"In order to oppose such threats, I had employed Adventurers at first but..... among the employed Adventurers, there were also some that attacked the Priests."

"No way!"

Adventurers belonged to the Adventurer's Guild. If they were to commit the crime of attacking the escort subject, not only would they be banished from the guild, wanted posters would be delivered to towns nationwide and they would become a 《Bounty》.

Baduta breathed a sigh.

"Those that would come to the former Demon King territory, they do not reflect on the danger.....And those that seek immediate money rather than life, there are more than a few of them."

"Is that, so."

Lumachina hung her head, looking sad.

This was a story that Rem could understand.

The former Demon King territory was a place filled with danger. To come to such a place without any sort of obligation, they probably weren't normal.

Baduta continued the story.

"In order to protect the Priests, and to further protect the powerless common people, I decided to hire those that I could trust and who possessed ability. I called them the Holy Knight Unit.....How a sense of privilege had sprouted and how such violent behaviour stood out as a result of it was, due to my lack of leadership but.....Seeking decorum from them in this land is difficult, so please understand the situation."

"Rather than decorum.....It is about their morals but....."

Lumachina turned her gaze towards Rem.

The reason why she didn't directly ask the outsider about this was in order to not show an attitude of not believing in Baduta's words. Even so, the reason why she turned her gaze towards her was probably because she was unable to make a decision.

Rem made a small nod.

—I don't think that was a lie.

In regions such as this, for those that had confidence in their skill, the potential that those same people would also have a moral sense was extremely low. It was impossible to compare them to the people that had great lives in safe towns.

Lumachina put a finger to her lips.

"So it was that sort of thing. I am sorry that I am ignorant of the world."

"N, no, such a thing is.....I as well, I have employed under policies that were not of the Church and have caused numerous mishaps due to my lack of leadership."

"I was able to understand that you had your circumstances."

"Thank you very much."

Rem thought about things.

—This man, is he unexpectedly someone that we can trust?

Her impression of him has changed quite a bit from when they first met him.

Because he was the boss of a bandit-like group, her impression of him was considerably bad. Even though they had gone out of their way to come out this far, she was disappointed with him.

However, after hearing about the circumstances, it was a story that anyone would agree with.

The demand for donations was because of the shortage of Priests and the unusual Feudal Lord. Even the tyranny of the Holy Knight Unit, it was because of this place being a dangerous region. The violence against the common people wasn't good, but it was probably better than the Priests being attacked by bad people and Demonic Beasts.

It seemed that Lumachina also trusted Baduta.

She began to talk.

"Just how much do you know of the current state of the Royal Capital's Church?"

"Well now? I was dispatched to the former Demon King territory three years ago. At that time, well, it was high-handedly gathering donations but.....that was pretty much all that had bothered me."

"What about how they were unjustly demanding large sums of donations?"

"What do you mean by that?"

"Doing unnecessary exorcisms by saying things like “this estate is haunted”, and bestowing charms against evil spirits only to demand large donations—I had heard of such rumors. In addition to that, there were things like accepting bribes from merchants."

"That is outrageous!"

Baduta folded his arms.

"Also, there were rumors that a portion of the Holy Knights would make false accusations of “devil worshippers” and would kill people while feigning that it was to purify them....."

"Absurd! That must be a fabrication, correct!?"

"It would be nice if it were but....."

"At the very least, such deviants weren't among the Holy Knights when I was in the Royal Capital!"

Rem felt like she would spontaneously speak up. How she was falsely accused by the Holy Knight Sadraa and was almost killed happened only half a month ago.

The injury on her right arm became hot.

"....."

However, what would happen if she were to say “I was suspected of being a devil worshipper and almost killed” even though she had no proof? Moreover, that Holy Knight Sadraa was erased during the Demon King revival turmoil. He was killed by the rampaging Demon King Krebskrum, and even his corpse didn't remain due to Diablo's maximum magic.

If she were to speak untactfully, she would place needless suspicions upon herself.

There was also the risk of making Lumachina's position worse.

Rem kept silent and continued to listen to the conversation.

Lumachina opened her lips.

"It is not like all of the Holy Knights are heavy with faith.....It is unfortunate, but that is the truth. There was someone that would do anything for the sake of money."

"Is that for certain?"

".....I was.....almost killed by a Holy Knight. Head Cardinal Official Bishos had,

handed over money and made that order, is what I was told."

"Wh, wh, what was that!? Is that true!?"

Baduta half rose to his feet.

"Would I lie about that.....?"

"No! Absolutely not! Ahh, how could this be....."

Baduta's face turned red from anger, and veins rose on his forehead. His stern shoulders and gripped fists trembled.

"What absurd foolishness! So the current Cardinal Institution has been corrupted that far!"

"It is quite sad."

"How accursed!"

His anger did not look like it was an act.

Rem did not completely trust Baduta. She was still stuck on the matter with the Holy Knight Unit.

—But, at the very least, it doesn't seem like he is connected with the Cardinal Institution.

If he had intended on aiming for Lumachina's life, there should not have been any need for him to go out of his way to do such an act.

Lumachina continued talking.

"In order to escape from the danger of assassination.....And then, in order to obtain the strength to reform the Church, I came all the way out to Zircon Tower to rely on you."

"So that is how it was."

"I do believe that I am saying something unreasonable though."

"No, I am grateful for you to have that much trust in me. Please have peace of mind! Whether they are the Cardinal Institute or the Holy Knights, I shall not allow them to lay a hand on you, Lumachina-sama!"

".....Thank you."

She breathed a sigh with an expression of relief.

Going "come to think of it", she asked a question.

"There is something called Marked Death Disease, correct? It is said that bruises that look like x's surface on the body."

"Yes. Once nine bruises surface, their lives are forfeit, or something. It is a dreadful illness."

"An illness? Do you also believe that.....?"

Lumachina made a puzzled face.

Baduta tilted his head.

"What might you mean by that?"

"I mean, isn't that not an illness, but a curse."

A chill ran up Rem's spine.

Her skin got goosebumps, and the fur on her tail and her hair stood on end.

—A curse!?

Baduta held down his forehead.

"That cannot be.....Are you sure that is not some sort of misunderstanding?"

"No, I heard Kami-sama's voice. That was not some illness. There was also the smell of water. Speaking of the water in this town, there is only the lake."

".....That is true."

"And then, I saw a darkness submerged deep underground. I would dare say that there should be something underneath the ground."

".....I see. That much."

"Baduta, a large-scale sorcery that threatens the lives of the people of this town is being performed. It must be dealt with quickly."

Rem kicked the bed and jumped at her.

"Why, would you say that! Were you not told by Diablo!?"

"Eh!? Hyah!?"

Pulling Lumachina away from the chair, she kept her apart from Baduta. She put Lumachina behind herself, and covered for her.

At the same time, she manipulated the 《Shadow Snake》, and it launched itself. With this Summoned Beast's level, it didn't even get through to Holy Knight Sadraa. That is why she didn't think that it would be able to 《Bind》 Baduta. However, it would probably be able to buy enough time for her to call out an even stronger Summoned Beast.

If it were a medium-sized Summoned Beast, even if it were to be defeated, it would become a quite an uproar.

—If it's Diablo, he should notice!

On the contrary, the 《Shadow Snake》 seized Baduta's body. It wasn't crushed.

".....Fumu."

"Wha!?"

《Bind》 was established.

Rem was bewildered.

Baduta tilted his head.

"What, might be the meaning of this? Adventurer."

Rem made a declaration.

".....Lumachina's story.....If anyone were to perform that sorcery, the offender would be no one other than you."

Going \*EHH!?, Lumachina was surprised.

Rem raised her voice.

".....Good grief.....I can't tell if you're smart or an idiot! You are much too indifferent to the greed of others."

"Eh?"

"By spreading having that curse spread, just who would be the one to benefit from it!?"

"Eh? B, benefit.....?"

"The people that contracted the Marked Death Disease, would make donations to the Church!"

".....ツ!!"

Lumachina's eyes went wide open.

It seemed that she didn't get the idea that they "cursed people with the aim for donations". That probably couldn't be helped. It was that purity that made her worthy of being High Chief Priest after all.

Lumachina made a face that said that she found it unbelievable and looked at Baduta.

".....What is, the meaning of this?"

"How troubling.....Everything, is that Adventurer's reckless remarks. Me, use sorcery? That is impossible. If it is a curse, then it should be the deed of one that holds resentment towards the people of this town."

"One that holds resentment?"

"Yes. The thing called a person's hatred is something that is beyond imagination after all."

Rem faltered.

—How formidable.

She thought that this man was the principal offender, but she couldn't refute his excuse.

Lumachina made a sad-looking face.

"Person....."

"Mu?"

"Why, did you think that the one that performing the sorcery was a person?"

"Ugh....."

Baduta was at a loss for words.

Lumachina asked him once again.

"I had only said that the Marked Death Disease was sorcery. Why, did you think that the practitioner was a person of the Races?"

Baduta curved his mouth.

"That is, how should I say this.....Hearing that it was sorcery, I unconsciously.....I only suspected the people of the Races first. There was the possibility of it being a Demonic Being, wasn't there. This is former Demon King territory after all. I simply jumped to a hasty conclusion. I am terribly sorry."

He thoroughly denied the suspicion. For him to deny it this far, was it their own misunderstanding? is what she started to think.

Lumachina put her hands together.

"Really? Do you swear that to Kami-sama?"

"Yes, of course. I swear to God, I have not performed any sorcery."

Baduta also put his hands together.

"I understand.....I shall believe you."

"I am relieved that you understand."

Rem's feelings were complicated. Of course, it was better if he was a person she could trust. She didn't want to believe that a person with such a position and such ability was a villain.

However, he was too suspicious.

Nevertheless, if Lumachina believes him, then it can't be helped.

Although she had gone through the trouble of placing Bind on him, she had no choice but to call off the 《Shadow Snake》.

Lumachina talked with a smile.

"In that case, please call Diablo-sama's group here."

Going \*Eh!?, Baduta was surprised.

"For what reason might you have for that?"

"From here on, we shall all go to the place where patients of the Marked Death Disease are. They are lined up in front of the tent even at night, correct? If it is to cure a great number of people, we will surely receive Kami-sama's voice all the more. If it is such a strong sorcery, we will immediately arrive at its source."

"Th, that can't be!"

"Are you saying that it shouldn't be possible? Baduta, the one in front of you is.....the High Chief Priest, you know."

"Uugh....."

"What is wrong, would it be inconvenient to call him here? No, how about we go to him. Rem, make preparations for the outing."

"Fufu.....You can do it when you need to, Lumachina. As expected of you."

Rem raised her tension. She extended her fingers to the pouch her crystals were stored in.

Baduta breathed a sigh.

"I see, so you were able to go that far.....This was more than I expected."

He glared at her.

\*Kurari\* Rem's field of view slanted.

—What was that!?

An intense drowsiness assailed her.

\*Gakuri\* She pressed her hands against the floor.

Lumachina also collapsed behind her.

With her concentration interrupted, the 《Shadow Snake》 would be called off. The crystal powered off and fell to the ground.

—What is the meaning of this!? I need to hurry, and call the next Summoned Beast!

She took a crystal in her hand, but she couldn't exhibit the concentration to bring the Summoned Beast about.

What had happened?

Rem had 《Chantless》 used on her in the fight against Holy Knight Sadraa, and lost. That is why, she received instruction from Diablo during the journey here, and learned the countermeasure for that.

Even though she couldn't see the flow of magical power, she practiced so that she was able to sense the activation of magic despite that.

"E, even though.....you, shouldn't have.....done anything....."

"I have not done anything. I did use a just a bit of sleeping drugs though."

The candlestick that was on top of the table.

It seemed that there was a contrivance placed in the oil lamp oil. There was probably a trick done so that it wouldn't work on himself.

So his strange excuses were to buy time! All to make them powerless without causing an uproar.....

"Kuh....."

—How frustrating.

Baduta approached them.

He stood in front of Lumachina, who had already lost consciousness. He stepped on her head with his leather boots.

"Damned little girl!"

"St, stop....."

Rem groaned. Extending her hand, she grabbed Baduta's ankle. However, she wasn't able to do anything more than that.

Baduta looked down at her.

"I will not kill you here. You all have strong magical power, and have a sense of justice. You are truly promising."

"Ugh....."

What did he mean by promising?

Unable to ask him about it, Rem fell asleep.

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# Chapter 4: Trying Out Chasing After Them

# Part 1

His body being shaken, Diablo was dragged out from his slumber.

"Nmu.....?"

"Diablo, someone has come, you know? Hey, wake up~"

However, his brain was still muddled.

".....Nn.....I, already said that I wouldn't go.....It kinda, feels like my stomach might be hurting, or something."

"EH, it hurts!? Diablo, are you alright!?"

A young girl's high-pitched voice entered his consciousness as if it were penetrating sand.

His hazy feeling head cleared up as he awoke.

—What did I say just now!?

"Uoh!?"

Diablo raised his body up.

Shera's eyes went round.

"Wawah.....!?"

"Wh, what, it is just you."

"Your stomach, it hurts?"

"Uh.....Ah.....No.....Th, that just now was.....A phrase of another world! In this world's words, I don't really know, how it would be heard! I suppose it reflexively came out!"

Shera smiled looking relieved.

"I see—. Thank goodness—"

An oil lamp swung at the edge of the room.

The window was closed, but there wasn't any light even from the gaps.

"Isn't it still night?"

"Un, it is but.....It feels like someone has come."

"What?"

Shera pointed at the roof.

At the top of the beam, there was a small figure of a person.

—They're inside of the room!? I was about to reflexively become flustered, but

let's play it cool. Demon Kings do not panic.

He took the 《Staff of Tenma》 that he placed beside the bed in his hand.

"Fu.....So you look down upon me. It would seem that you really wish to turn into ash, don't you?"

That thing flapped its hands.

"Wait, wait! Danna, it's me -ssu yo!"

The figure of a person came out from the darkness that was above the beam, and descended to the floor where the oil lamp's light could reach. It was Horun the Grasswalker.

Diablo kept his staff pointing at him and didn't loosen his guard.

"You, who are you?"

"Come on, I told you that I was an Adventurer, didn't I?"

"Hou? So the Adventurers of this place explore other people's houses?"

"That's not it -ssu yo! I came to meet you -su, Danna!"

Shera pointed at him.

"There's curry at the edge of your mouth, you know?"

"Whoops!?"

Horun wiped his mouth.

"So you were completely committing theft!?"

"It, it's because there were leftovers when I was searching for Danna's room! Snitching food is just a bit of mischief, ain't it -suka~. Ahaha....."

"Damn untrustful fool. I am not going to the dungeon. Things won't calm down for a while after all."

Besides, if the newly discovered dungeon was Diablo's personal space, there should be a large number of rare equipments that he gathered in the game in the treasury.

Going by the situation of the low-leveled equipment of this world, it could only destroy the military balance.

If they were to go together, he would have to give him a portion of it. He didn't feel like there was any need for help either.

"Go home."

"Now, now, I've also got some juicy material for you, you know -su yo?"

"What is it?"

"The Head of the Holy Knights Baduta, I saw him carrying your companions in

a sand sleigh -su, Danna."

\*Dokun\* Diablo's heart skipped a beat.

".....What, was that?"

"He's talking about Rem and Lumachina!?"

Shera also opened her eyes wide.

Going \*Fufun\*, Horun puffed his chest out.

"Since a female Priest and a flat-chested, black Pantherian are rare, there's not mistaking them -ssu yo. Nn Fu Fu~, as I thought, you didn't know -su ne! What cha think, I'm surprisingly helpfu—"

Diablo jumped out of the bed, and drew closer to Horun.

"When was it!?"

"A, about 30 minutes ago -ssu. Since he was using the Holy Knight Unit and it looked like it was against their will, I thought that I needed to notify Danna about this....."

"I'll tear you limb from limb if that story is a lie!"

Grabbing Horun's arm, Diablo went out of the room and into the hallway.

There was two maids, and they made surprised faces.

"Is, is something the matter? If you have any needs, we will....."

"Move it! If you don't want to get hurt, then don't get in my way!"

"Hii!?"

Taking Horun along, he ran down the hallway. Shera said "Wait, wait" as she followed along.

Guys of the Holy Knight Unit created a wall in the middle of the hallway.

"The High Chief Priest's room is beyond here! No matter who you are, we cannot allow you to pass!"

"I am only confirming her well-being!"

"Unless you have Baduta-sama's permission, you cannot pass! Since we are properly protecting this place, you can leave her to us!"

"If you get in my way, things will not end safely for you, got it!?"

Horun shouted.

"Danna! Above!"

There was a hole in the ceiling of the hallway, and someone that seemed to be of the Holy Knight Unit was hidden there. He prepared his sword and came down.

"Hoaaaaa——ツ!!"

—Damned fools!

Diablo fired his magic.

"《Air Block》!!"

It made the air hard like concrete. An invisible obstacle was generated.

The guy that came down crashed into it and with a \*Kiin!\*, his sword broke.

Banging his face hard on it, his teeth flew.

"Ngafuh!?"

The other Holy Knight Unit member drew his sword.

"Alright, he shouldn't be able to use his next magic immediately! Kill him!!"

"You all, who do you think you are making an enemy of—《Freezia》!!"

Unlike the other Chemical Elemental Magicians around, Diablo was able to rapidly fire with a considerable speed if it was with intermediate level magic that could be learned up until level 99.

Invoking 《Freezia》, a cold air and a shock wave spread out.

The guys of the Holy Knight Unit were frozen.

"Uoooo—!? Guh, gah.....!?"

The cold air that looked faintly white enveloped even Diablo's group. It was enough to make their cheeks and ears hurt.

The stone wall that was chilled radically cracked and crumbled, and the building slanted.

The crystal of ice took the shape of a bud, and a flower bloomed.

He thought that freezing them would be better than causing a fire but.....it might have turned into a catastrophe.

—Well, whatever, as long as they're alive, they'll probably be healed by a Priest.

"Let's go!"

"U, un!"

Going with the shivering Shera, and pulling along the solidified Horun, they continued further in.

He kicked down the locked door.

The beds were empty, and a crystal had fallen on the floor.

One of the chairs had fallen over, and the oil lamp that was on top of the table was still lit. There was the smell of flowers.

Diablo clenched his fist.

To be able to go against a Summoner as skilled as Rem without causing an uproar.....

"So he was much better than I thought.....That damned Baduta....."

Shera's shoulders trembled.

"Wh, what do we do! Both Rem and Lumachina, were, were they.....killed.....!?"

"If he planned to simply kill them, he wouldn't have kidnapped them."

Moreover, he probably would have done it much sooner.

From Diablo's conjectures, Baduta shouldn't be connected to the Cardinal Institute.

Whether it was when they rode on the sand sleigh, when they were eating their meals, or when they were changing their clothes, there should have been opportunities.

Naturally, he was vigilant but.....

"Even if that guy were going to take action, I thought that he would do it a bit later though? Even I didn't want to get into trouble immediately."

"What do you mean, Diablo?"

"First, I needed to recover. Also, there is the Marked Death Disease."

"What?"

"That, it isn't something like an illness. It's sorcery."

"Ehhh~~~~!?"

The one that raised a surprised voice wasn't just Shera, but Horun as well.

In a limited time event in the MMORPG Cross Reverie, Diablo had seen sorcery that made people take that same state.

× marks would surface on NPCs.

If the enemy base wasn't annihilated in nine days time, a great number of people would die—It was that sort of serious scenario, and he remembered that the BBS got pretty roused up by it.

By going into the dungeon that had become the target and defeating the event boss, the 《Event Gauge》 would rise. Depending on the level of the gauge, the unfolding of the scenario would change.

Naturally, Diablo completely cleared the event, and obtained a “charm that heals the Marked Death Disease”.

—It didn't give an effect in battle, but was an item where you were shown

gratitude by NPCs in movie form only though.

According to the game's scenario, the sorcery was a deed of a Demonic Being. And the dungeon was in the basement of the chapel.

However, the chapel of this world was shut down by the local knights. There shouldn't be a Demonic Being in the basement of it. Also, the Feudal Lord of the game's Zircon Tower wasn't a woman with such a strong personality.

Various things were different.

At any rate, they couldn't allow the Marked Death Disease to be released.

Baduta didn't have any signs of being hostile.

Because of that, he had intended on ascertaining if it would be alright to entrust Lumachina to Baduta while they were settling the Marked Death Disease.

—I wonder why that guy suddenly took action?

It was impossible for even Diablo to guess that Baduta revealed his true nature from Lumachina's questioning.

"In any case, right now, taking Rem and Lumachina back is top priority."

He put off the matter of the Marked Death Disease.

According to Horun's story, it seemed that the girls were placed on a sand sleigh. If that is the case, they should be distant from this estate.

Sand ships won't set sail during the night.

There were large monsters in the desert, and they were more active at night in general.

In order to escape from those, the sand ship would need to raise its speed, but there weren't any powerful lighting devices in this world.

That meant that it would be sailing the pitch dark desert at great speed. The punch line would be that it would crash into a dune or a crag.

In other words, the place that Rem and Lumachina were taken to was somewhere in the town.

"There isn't any time to just stand around.....I guess I'll have them spit it out."

Diablo returned to the hallway.

The effects of 《Freezia》 had faded, and the guys of the Holy Knight Unit were crouching there after having received damage from the temperature lowering. Choosing one that looked like they would talk, he pointed the 《Staff of Tenma》 at him.

"Choose.....Will you tell me Baduta’s destination, or will you die here?"



## Part 2

Rem opened her eyes.

The flame of a lamp wavered.

When she tried to move her hands, she noticed that she couldn't do that.

—I'm tied up with rope!?

Rem found her arms and legs fixed to an X shaped post. She was placed on a crucifix.

"Wha!?"

"So you've noticed."

When she looked beside her since she was called out to, she saw that Lumachina was also bound to a post just like her.

"Lumachina!? Th, this is....."

"Since I also noticed it just a little while ago, I do not really understand but....."

".....Is that so."

Rem looked around at the surroundings.

The ceiling was excessively high. Enough that the light of the flames didn't reach it.

Were they within a stone walled building?

It was cylindrical, and was quite spacious. It was large enough for the chapel to fit snugly in it.

There was a platform at the center of the base, and that was where Rem and Lumachina were propped up.

They were apprehended by Baduta. And, it seemed that he was performing sorcery.

—If that's the case, we supposed to be sacrifices?

The muscles along her spine trembling was her imagination. There were large lamps all around them, and their flames swayed.

On the opposite side of the illumination, it was dazzling so she couldn't see all that well but.....her eyes gradually grew accustomed to it.

Something was moving.

And then, she noticed that she could hear the breathing of several things.

".....What could that be?"

"I do not know. However, I get an unpleasant feeling from it."

Lumachina's voice was stiff.

Rem concentrated her eyes on the other side of the flames.

It was a person.

The flames shined upon it, and she could tell that the figure of a person was moving. How many people were here? The races varied, and it appeared that there were more figures of people than she thought.

Moreover, a majority of them were naked.

Rem drew back her voice.

"Wh, wha.....!?"

"Eh? What could they be doing here.....?"

Maybe Lumachina's eyes had grown accustomed as well.

A great number of men and women, enough to completely fill up the floor, were entangled with each other.

Rem reflexively turned her face away.

".....Is, is that, really.....Could they really be doing that.....?"

"What is it?"

Lumachina seemed like she truly did not know about it.

Rem felt not just her cheeks but even her ears get hot.

".....I cannot explain that."

"Eh?"

She was bewildered.

Nonetheless, even Rem couldn't speak about it.

Just what in the world was the meaning of all this?

Gradually, the long breathes of the people became rough. The groans of the men, and the heavy breathing of the women filled the cylindrical building.

The sounds of flesh hitting flesh, and the splashing sounds of sweat and body fluids were made, and a beastly smell hung in the air.

Someone climbed up the staircase that was on the altar.

It was Baduta.

He was wearing clothes. Rem felt a bit relieved.

However, the women that he brought along were pretty much naked.

"Ah, you are.....!?"

It was the long black haired maid, Shiiryuu. There was no trace of the maid clothes that she wore. She wore nothing on both her chest and waist. However, she was in a corset, and was wearing shoes.

Rem's shoulders trembled.

"H, how shameless!"

Baduta laughed shaking his shoulders.

"So you've finally awoken. I was about to wonder what I should if it had become morning."

"Kuh.....How dare you deceive us!"

"If you are going to resent anyone, resent Lumachina. She should have known that her sense of justice would destroy her."

Lumachina leaked out a powerless voice.

"I am sorry, Rem.....I have dragged you into this."

".....That's not the case. This situation, is due to my mistake. I am terribly sorry for not being able to protect you."

Rem had gathered experience as an Adventurer, but she fell behind many times in terms of weak points.

—Could it be that I am surprisingly “honest to a fault”? The idiot should be Shera's role though.

While having a subtly harsh thought, she thought of methods of how they should escape.

However, the constraints on her limbs were lacking any slack to the point of admiration.

Rem ground her teeth.

".....What do you plan on doing with us, Baduta!?"

"A ritual."

"Eh?"

"As you can see, this place is an altar."

".....How despicable."

Repeating Rem's words, Lumachina talked.

"There couldn't possibly be such a repulsive altar such as this. Isn't this place just full of evil!?"

Baduta nodded.

"That is exactly it. What is here is “immorality”."

".....As I thought.....Sorcery."

It seemed that he was no longer hiding it. Baduta took the small pot that the maid carried in his hand, and opened the lid. A blackish green liquid was inside. "This is the source that bring about the Marked Death Disease—the “undiluted solution”."

"Wha!?"

"By pouring this into the lake, it will manifest in the citizens who live on that water with a certain probability. Those people will rely on the Church, and will drop a large amount of donations."

".....That’s the worst."

Rem groaned.

Lumachina was at a loss for words. She looked like she received a shock from how the person that she had once felt trust for was this much of a scumbag.

Baduta asked a question.

"This undiluted solution, how do you think it is created?"

".....There is no way I would know."

"So you can’t even imagine it. What you are lacking, is the power of imagination, isn’t it, Adventurer."

"Mu"

Since she had just been thinking “Aren’t I getting deceived too much”, it made her all the more angry. People are creatures that get angry when their mark gets hit.

"The undiluted solution of the Marked Death Disease, you see, is generated from something called plain evil. Now then, how is plain evil obtained?"

Baduta turned his gaze to the surroundings.

"Look, they are just like beasts, aren’t they? However, those people, they were originally pious believers. Thick with piety, and possessing a sense of justice, they were noble men and chaste women."

".....What of it?"

"With just a small push to the back, people easily fall."

He looked at the lamps that surrounded the altar.

—Did they add something to the oil of these lamps as well?

When she focused on it, there was some sort of sweet smell.

Rem reflexively held her breathe.

However, it was impossible to stop breathing.

Baduta spread his hands out wide.

His ecstasy filled expression was illuminated by the flames of the lamps.

"Adultery.....Bloodshed.....Gluttony.....The time when people fall, divinity is lost, and plain evil is born."

"A, a place.....that makes people commit sin.....?"

Rem once again surveyed the surroundings.

Certainly, it wasn't just intercourse, there were also people doing other things. There were people that greedily devoured massive amounts of food that were placed down until they vomited. And then, there were also people that raised a blade overhead towards others!

"St, stop—!"

Rem, being constrained at the altar, was unable to do anything.

Lumachina shed tears.

"S.....such.....strange....."

For her who lived a life that was probably much more pure than Rem, she recieved a much stronger shock.

Her body was trembling.

"Please get a hold of yourself, Lumachina! Certainly, this is all strange! Your moral senses aren't mistaken! Take a good hold of your heart!"

"Uuu.....Kami-sama.....Kami-sama....."

While shedding tears, she muttered.

Her body faintly shined.

It was similar to when she prayed.

Baduta shrugged his shoulders.

"According to my investigations, the stronger the divinity a person has, the thicker the obtainable plain evil from when they fall. It should create that much stronger of an undiluted solution."

".....Y, you want to make that many people contract the Marked Death Disease!?"

"Wrong. Right now, one person is enough."

"One person?"

"It is Lamnites."

Rem ended up becoming dumbfounded. To think that the name of Zircon

Tower's Feudal Lord would come up here.

"She is dangerous. She has obstructed me altogether. She even has a faint inkling about this sorcery. I absolutely have to make her contract the Marked Death Disease."

".....All just for that?"

"Lamnites does not drink the water of the lake. It is fairly hard for the sorcery to reach her, but it seems that the water is used in her cuisine. If a powerful undiluted solution is used, it will most likely manifest on her."

".....What will happen to the people of the town that drink that water!?"

"They will probably contract the Marked Death Disease. At that time, the Priests will cure them. If they make a donation, that is!"

Baduta expressed a warped smile.

Lumachina glared at him with weeping eyes.

"You.....Why would you commit such a grave sin.....!? I had heard that you were a noble personage. What happened to you!?"

"Would you be satisfied if there were a tear jerking inside story? Something like my family was killed, or that I was betrayed by a close friend, or that I was threatened by a Demonic Being? You damned fool, there is no reason needed to fall. People are greedy and sinful creatures."

Just as they guessed from his speech and conduct, Baduta was not connected to the Cardinal Institution.

However, he was an outrageous villain unrelated to them!

To think that he would indiscriminately spread sorcery among the people for the sake of money and power.

Lumachina yelled out loud.

"Even if that is the case, no matter what the person's true nature is, there are people that are able to be proper!"

"I am looking forward to it, for when the proudly sermoning High Chief Priest falls to desire."

"ツ!?"

"Teach her what pleasure is, Shiiryuu."

The mostly naked Head Maid received the order, and expressed an alluring smile.

"Fufufu.....Is that alright, for me to make her fall?"

"I expect that it is about time for the guests to come. I do not have the time to shake my waist. This isn't a simple opponent after all."

"Goshujin-sama, it is as if you are waiting for your lover. I am quite jealous."

"Go finish her up. I will partner up with you afterwards."

"My, I look forward to that! What shall we do with this Pantherian?"

"It's his slave. We might be able to use her to stop him in his tracks. Torment her as you like without killing her."

"As you wish, Goshujin-sama."

Only her bowing action was that of a maid. Although her appearance was similar to her being naked.....

Rem threw out all of the abusive language that she could come up with, but she was ignored.

While wriggling her fingers, Shiiryuu got close to Lumachina. She let out a long breath.

"Nfuu~.....To be able to make such a pretty girl fall, it is really arousing."

"D, do not approach me!"

Her white fingers made an eagle grip on Lumachina's breast from above her clothes.

"It has quite the springiness to it."

"Haguh!?"

"Your sensitivity is good too. I thought you were sexually frigid since you always talk about formal things."

"St, stop.....Let go!"

"Saying something like that, once you get a taste of my caressing, you'll be pleading me for more, you know?"

\*Pero~n\* Shiiryuu stuck her tongue out.

It was long to the point of making one think "Wasn't she a Human!?"

Longer than the Dwarves who were supposed to have long tongues, it was long enough to think it would reach the throat.

"Hafuun.....I'll lick you deep inside."

Shiiryuu's hand went to Lumachina's clothes. Going into her skirt, she tore off her underwear in the end.

"Kyaaaaa————ツ!?"



\*Zushin\* A tremor was transmitted.

\*Guragura\* The cylindrical building shook. \*Parapara\* Sand fell.  
Rem looked up at the ceiling.

—An earthquake?

Things became noisy above.

A door close to the ceiling opened.

Come to think of it, Lumachina did say that there should have been something underneath the ground. So this place was a basement.

Rem had a premonition.

The feeling of despair that filled her heart cleared up like the sky after the rain.

".....Diablo."

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## Part 3

"Baduta's destination" that he got out from the Holy Knight Unit was on the western outskirts of the town.

There were countless tents, and believers had created a line even though it was nighttime.

They couldn't search the tents one by one.

Diablo came up with a plan.

"Shera, call out your Summoned Beast. Monitor the place from the sky with your 《Turkey Shot》."

"Eh? But it pretty much can't see at night, you know? It has night-blindness after all."

"It will become bright before long."

He pointed the 《Staff of Tenma》 towards the dark sky where the clouds hung low.

He fired a magic—《Explosion》.

An explosion happened in the sky. The surroundings became bright, and the people rustled about. The believers, the Adventurers and the merchants.

And then, the guys of the Church that were guarding the tent did as well.

Diablo signaled to Shera.

"There should be someone going to inform Baduta about the unusual event! Search for him from above!"

"U, un!"

They probably wouldn't panic and go to make a report with just one or two shots. Diablo fired magic into the sky in succession.

"《Explosion》! 《Explosion》! 《Explosion》!"

When he did that, the tent where that the Priests and the Holy Knight Unit members that were entrusted with the security were discovered.

Naturally, there was also a gatekeeper that guarded the entrance to the basement, but he mercilessly kicked him away.

At the end of the long staircase that they descended—  
Kicking the stone door, he opened it.  
It was a cylindrical room.

There was a sticky-feeling, sweet aroma. And then, there was a beastly smell. Shera covered her mouth with her hand.

"What.....is this.....What a really unpleasant feeling!"

Diablo had recognized it.

It was the last stage of the limited time event. It was the place where the boss monster was.

—Just how similar is this world to the game!?

From the entrance, the descending spiral-shaped staircase that went along the stone walls extended down to the bottom.

The stones that the walls and staircase were made of slightly varied in size. On average, they had a height of about 50 centimeters, and their width and length were more than one meter. In order to line up with the cylindrical wall, they had become a somewhat trapezoidal.

Light only came from below.

Going onto all fours where they stood, Horun peeked down at the bottom.

Diablo had told him “you do not need to go as far as the basement”, but in the end, he followed along this far.

"D, Danna, there is something there -ssu."

Diablo also looked at the bottom of the cylindrical room.

There was the figures of people.

Within the light of the wavering flames, there were men and women indulging in a banquet of depravity.

Going \*Fu\*, Diablo’s mouth warped.

He took an attitude that said that this sort of thing was completely trivial, but his discomposure in his mind was something substantial.

—What the hell is this!?

MMORPG Cross Reverie was a wholesome game that targeted all ages.

Naturally, it didn’t develop into such an erotic game.

Shera also looked at the bottom, and her face turned pale.

"Diablo! Rem and Lumachina-chan are there!"

"Mu"

He turned his gaze to where she pointed at.

On the altar that was at the center of the bottom, the girls were put up on

crucifixes.

Lumachina was disrobed into an immodest appearance.

Her outer garments were taken off, and her chest was exposed. Her underwear had also fallen to the ground.

Her face had become deep red.

The one that crept their hands along Lumachina's body was, the Head Maid Shiiryuu. This one was mostly naked. She only had a black corset, fishnet stockings, and high-heels on.

It was an appearance that seemed like she would be drawn on one of those excessively large boxes, even though there was only a single DVD inside, that were sold in places that sold games like oomap or odio.

—That's taking it way too seriously, isn't it!?

She was creeping her tongue along Lumachina's skin.

He couldn't hear from up there, but he could tell that she was trying to escape.

However, it seemed that her limbs were restrained.

Diablo ran down the stairway.

"Shera, Horun, wait here! I'll bring the two back!"

"U, un!"

"Roger that -ssu!"

Going half way down the stone stairway, where there was about 50 meters left—

There was someone that was coming up.

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## Part 4

It was Baduta.

Unlike the guys that were naked at the bottom, he was properly wearing armor.

He held a spear tinged with magical power in his hand.

He poured a sharp glint of his eyes on Diablo.

"I've been waiting for you, Diablo or whatever it was."

His heavy voice reverberated.

Being confronted like this raised Diablo's tension all the more. It felt as if heat was rising from deep within his body.

This was without a doubt a Demon King-like moment.

Diablo turned the 《Staff of Tenma》 towards him.

"Kukuku.....Baduta, lament on your carelessness of standing before my eyes!"

However, he was worried—If it was a powerful person such as Baduta, he should be able to guess the difference in ability between himself and Diablo.

What was with the opponent's confidence-filled attitude? Was it a trap? Was it a bluff?

Diablo's haughtiness and confidence-filled attitude was, of course, a bluff. It was a Demon King role play. Putting aside when it was in the game, whenever he fought in this world, he always suppressed his nervousness and fear.

He inquired.

"Baduta, what is this scene?"

"If you are a first-rate Magician, then wouldn't you know?"

Since he was a mere Gamer, he didn't happen to have any knowledge on things that didn't have to do with battle like that on hand.

However, if the objective of this place was the same as the game.....

"So you were performing the sorcery for the Marked Death Disease."

"Fumu.....Did you hear from Lumachina that it was sorcery?"

"You are saying that she also noticed?"

Baduta frowned.

"It can't be, you mean to say not just the High Chief Priest, but even a Magician had noticed?"

"Fu, I am not some Magician. I am a Demon King that came from another

world!"

"Such nonsense....."

—This is pretty unbelievable, isn't it.

He thought that Rem and Shera's honesty, both of whom simply believed him, was priceless.

"Are those foolish fellows groveling at the bottom also related to that sorcery or whatever....."

"If you become my subordinate, I shall tell you anything."

"You are talking quite arrogantly, aren't you, Baduta. That sorcery.....Did you learn it from a Demonic Being?"

The opponent's eyes went wide open.

"Wha!? How, did you know?"

It was because it was sorcery that a Demonic Being used in the game—he couldn't possibly say that.

"Kukuku.....I said that I was a Demon King, did I not!"

He still didn't know what this other world was, but he thought that it might be the source material for the MMORPG Cross Reverie.

Even in regards to this sorcery, only the R-18 portion was omitted.

He probably brought Rem and Lumachina here for some reason, a reason that was not narrated in the game, and make them do such immoral actions.

Diablo made a command.

"Release those two. In addition, if you atone for these vulgar misdeeds, I shall leave you with only your life."

Baduta laughed, shaking his shoulders.

"Diablo.....You sure are young. How you achieved that much strength, with that youthfulness, I am entirely interested in it but.....At any rate, you are inexperienced."

"What was that?"

"You have never lost a fight, have you? If you fight like that, you become conceited and believe that you will “absolutely win”. That is why, even in this current situation, you're thinking that you've “cornered the enemy”, aren't you?"

"Hmph.....That is because it is the truth."

While taking a self-important attitude, he broke out into a cold sweat in his

mind.

Certainly, Diablo was thinking that he would “probably win if he fought one-on-one”.

Even if his MP had decreased, Diablo’s level was higher, and the difference in equipment was large.

Baduta’s spear was tinged with magical power, but at most it was of SSR rank. Diablo’s equipment was SSR equipment that was strengthened to the limit. If it were given a rating, it was EX rank.

It was an overwhelming advantage.

On top of that, Diablo possessed superior Player skills, and he had never lost even when he fought against a similarly level 150 top Ranker.

—Boiling it down to being theory-like, my parameters are level 150, and my equipment is 150. And then, my Player Skills are 150! Altogether, my level is 450! The difference from the level 130 Baduta is, 320!

If they fought, there should be no mistake that he would win.

Baduta stroked his beard.

"Now then, it would seem that you are an absurdly strong Chemical Elemental Magician but.....What magic are you able to use here?"

"Mu.....?"

\*Kon kon\* Baduta knocked on the stone wall.

The stone that was hit by his gauntlet had a bit of it break off and fall.

It was surprisingly fragile.

"This place is underground. At this depth, the surrounding area is bedrock, but if the ceiling were to collapse, a large amount of sand would probably come falling down."

Diablo gulped.

"Making such a bluff.....You will also be buried alive, won't you?"

"I wage my life for the sake of victory. That is only natural. It should be same for you. However, what about the lives of your companions?"

"You bastard!"

Diablo had come to save Rem and Lumachina. If he were to bury them alive with sand, it would all come to nothing.

Baduta didn't care about the lives around him.

"With this, the maximum magic like what you fired at the 《Sand Whale》 has

been sealed, hasn't it? Next is your footing. Do you specialize in fighting on stairways? Let us see just how well you can evade with the footing here....."

"The one that will suffer from being unable to evade, is you!"

He fired magic.

《Explosion》

An explosion occurred.

The stone stairway crumbled, and it fell down.

The fragments of stone fell on top of the group that were sloppily having intercourse at the bottom of the cylindrical room.

"Ugh!?"

It was much more fragile than he thought.

In addition, because it was an enclosed space, the shockwave felt was many times stronger than how it would be outside.

Sand flashily fell down from the ceiling.

—So even magic of this level is too strong!?

Baduta calmly evaded, going down the stairway. If Diablo were to grasp that speed, he would have liked to use magic with a much wider range but.....

If he were to use something like that, the ceiling would give out.

Diablo cast his eyes towards the altar.

It seemed that the damage from the magic just now hadn't reached the altar where Rem and Lumachina were. He was relieved.

The people in the surroundings had become strange. Even though fragments of stone and sand were falling from above, they stayed intoxicated by the banquet of madness and not a single one of them tried to run away. They didn't even show signs of noticing the surrounding dangers. They probably no longer had any sanity left within them.

Baduta smiled.

"You do things without thinking."

"Hmph.....I simply tested you out a bit. To see if you are worth of making me get serious."

"I see. Well then, allow me to go next."

Baduta prepared his spear, and came thrusting it out.

He needed to repel him with magic!

—Just what level of magic will end things without destroying the stone walls!?

Baduta shouted.

"You've hesitated, greenhorn!!"

The distance was filled all at once.

The spear aimed for Diablo's heart. It clearly came to kill.

"How naive, Baduta."

The magic 《Grand Mine》 activated at his feet.

It was a magic that caused an explosion when a specified spot on the ground was stepped on. It was an Earth attribute Elementary Magic, and had low power, but it was because of that that he didn't need to worry about the stone wall breaking.

Baduta did not stop even as he was enveloped by the explosion.

"It is your loss!"

"Ugh!?"

Baduta's spear headed towards Diablo.

Evasion was—

The stone wall to his right, there was no choice but to fall on his left, and quickly moving back was too unsuitable in this place that was a bending stairway.

The advancing Baduta had Diablo and both sides of the stairway in his sight. He had no choice but to rely on his memory to move back.

However, the length and height of each step of this stairway subtly differed. It would be the end if he slipped up.

"Ha! Do not underestimate a Demon King!!"

Diablo brushed away the spear's attack with his left hand.

He was a Magician who was supposed to be weak at close combat, but his basic parameters were at a suitably high level.

He swept it aside.

Even though that is what should have happened, the spear vanished from his field of vision.

\*Zoku\* A chill ran down his spine.

—What!?

It was different from what he expected.

His own left hand wasn't where it should have been.

Wasn't it supposed to have brushed the spear away and prepare for the next

attack?

A massive amount of blood spilled down onto the stone stairway.

Diablo's left arm was, severed even through the bone, and it dangled only by his skin.

—Uowaaaaahhhhhhhhhhh!?

He desperately held down the scream that was about to let out.

A greasy sweat spouted out.

The pain was too much, and his vision flickered.

Shera, who was watching the fight from the top of the stairway, raised a scream as if to do it in Diablo's place.

And even though she shouldn't know about the situation, Rem raised her voice at the bottom.

What happened to Lumachina?

Horun's figure was gone. Did he run away?

Diablo still had the composure to worry about his surroundings.

Normally, he surely would have writhed about in pain, crying and shouting. Was it all thanks to his tough level 150 body?

He was somehow able to put himself on guard.

"Fu.....Fufu.....You are pretty good.....Baduta."

"You overestimated your own strength, and came to a place where you can't exhibit that magic of yours. You might have thought that you used all sorts of methods and "ascertained the secret location" but.....this was all calculated in order to call you here without suspecting anything. If I had left a letter behind saying "I am waiting at an underground facility", you probably would have been cautious and come after making adequate preparations. But, because you had arrived here with information leaked by my subordinates, you came in without any vigilance."

He couldn't deny that.

Instead of clicking his tongue, Diablo showed a grin.

"It is weaklings that think about the various small details."

"It is just as you say. I do not believe myself to be strong. I do not get self-conceited. I always make thorough preparations, drop formidable enemies into my plans, and defeat them in situations where I have the absolute advantage.

Relying on ability, equipment, and techniques, that is what a greenhorn does." There was a terrain effect even in the game. Special restrictive conditions as well.

However, times where the Player side prepared it, that almost never happened. A majority of the time, the administrators would prepare the special terrain, and the Players would think about the considerations for conquering it.

Diablo curved his lips.

—True, I might have been self-conceited. My thinking was shallow. This has seriously become a good reference, Oji-san.

Even if there was a need to take not damaging the stone wall into consideration, 《Grand Mine》 was the wrong choice against a Warrior-type that was greater than level 130. It was too weak that it couldn't even slow him down.

It seemed that the opponent had piled up a lot of practice in regards to moving on the stairway. He could evade magic on the level of 《Explosion》.

That being said, if Diablo were fire high powered magic with a vast range, the stone wall would end up being destroyed.

Truly, this was a really well thought out countermeasure for Magicians.

—Even so, I will win!

"Baduta, magic that you do not know of exists in this world as well! 《Lightning Sphere》!!"

\*Baribari\* A purple lightning traveled through the air.

A sphere clad in lightning came forth. For its size, it had a diameter of about three meters.

If Baduta were to touch it, an intense electrical shock would run through him, and only Baduta would receive an electric shock without damaging the stone wall.

The drawback of this magic, was that it was slow.

It slowly flew towards the opponent.

In a normal situation, it could easily be evaded but.....This was on top of a stairway. There was no where to avoid it.

"I see. So there was this sort of magic as well."

Would he meekly go down the stairway as far as possible? He probably wouldn't do that.

If he had level 130 leg strength, he should be able to jump over the three meter sphere even while wearing armor.

—Come!!

He had planned to force Baduta towards the cliff with a 《Grand Mine》 he set up on the wall.

\*Jirijir\* The sphere of electrical shocks approached the opponent.

—What? Is he not going to jump?

\*Hyuu\* Baduta's figure disappeared.

It wasn't upwards. Incredibly, the guy jumped down towards the cliff.

—You're kidding me, right!?

"Your aim is quite obvious, greenhorn!"

For a moment, it looked as if Baduta had fallen, but one of his hands remained on the stone stairway.

He was hanging from it.

And then, after letting the 《Lightning Sphere》 pass by, he brought his body back up onto the stone stairway.

Baduta's posture was bad.

It would have been effective if Diablo made a direct attack right here.

However, Diablo was a Magician that specialized in firepower. Challenging him in close combat would be reckless.

If fact, it had taken his all just to avoid the spear that Baduta thrust out.

Diablo stepped back.

The heel of his right foot got caught on the stone stairway.

"Cra—!?"

"You have slipped up! This is the end!"

Baduta's spear was thrust out. A glittering, seven-colored effect spread out. So it was the Martial Art 《Rising Spear》—The move's activation was fast, and its power was high. In addition, it invalidated the Physical Damage Reduction effect.

Most likely, when he had cut Diablo's left arm a little while ago, he probably noticed that there was the Physical Damage Reduction effect in Diablo's equipment.

The spear lodged itself into Diablo's chest.

The sharp spearhead, it tore through his 《Hollow of Jet Black》, severed his

muscles, smashed his bones, and pierced his heart.

A large amount of blood spouted out from his mouth.

The pain was so great that, without even realizing that it was pain, his brain burst and it felt as if he would lose consciousness.

Death.

He fell into darkness.

His heart was crushed due to the high level Martial Art. This was without a doubt instant death damage.

The 《Staff of Tenma》 fell from Diablo's right hand.

It rolled on top of the large amount of blood that was spilled.

Crumbling down, he fell to his knees.

The one that raised a high-pitched scream, was probably Shera.

Baduta was confident of his victory and expressed a smile.

Diablo's right hand grabbed onto Baduta's left wrist.

Breathing out rough breathes like a beast, and his eyes shining with a blazing radiance, his bloodstained lips opened.

"You've finally, stopped.....you senile old man."

".....Wh.....Why, are you alive!?"

Baduta tried to get away, but Diablo's grip wasn't so weak as to let him shake it off so easily. Diablo invoked a magic whose condition was "contact".

".....Send everything to the world of stillness.....《Absolute Zero》."

Starting from the part that Diablo was in contact with, Baduta's left arm turned white.

One of the Water Attributes strongest magics.

Any and all kinetic energy is completely and eternally lost. The target was limited to one person, and the spell won't activate unless done at zero distance.

Baduta's eyes went wide open.

"UOOOOOOHHHHHHHH——!?"

"Go and become a sculpture of ice!"

While hurling blood from his mouth, Diablo shouted.

Baduta invoked a Martial Art with his right hand. With the 《Finger Blade》that turned his hand blade into a drawn sword—

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## Part 5

The frozen white left arm fell.

Baduta amputated his own arm with a Martial Art.

If he had done nothing, he probably would have turned into a statue of ice about this time. That was some outrageous quick wittedness and grit.

However, losing an arm and weapon, that should have been fatal for a Warrior-type.

Diablo pulled out the spear that was stuck in his chest, and threw it away from the stone stairway.

Blood gushed out from the hole that bore into his chest.

He expressed a devil like smile.

"Kukuku.....What is wrong, Baduta? Was losing your left arm and weapon also part of your plan?"

A smile of composure.

But he was screaming in his mind.

—Goddamnit, it hurrrrrrttttts————ツ!!

It should have been a wound to the chest, but his limbs felt like they were going to be torn off. The pain ran about his whole body.

Although he had recovered from a hopeless situation, it was a plan that he never wanted to do again.

Daring to receive a certain instant death attack, and inducing an opening on the enemy—It was easy to say, but the moment his heart was pierced, he seriously thought he would die.

Diablo's mantle, the 《Curtain of Dark Clouds》, had an effect where only a single point of HP would remain when receiving an attack that would turn his HP to zero.

Even he had started to forget about it, but it was just as he confirmed when he was summoned to this world.

Honestly, he thought that he would never have to use it in this world that had a sense of reality. It was because having only one HP also had the possibility of being in a status where he pretty much could not move.

—No, in actuality, even breathing hurts. Would I die if a mosquito or something bit me as I am now?

The Instant Death Evasion effect of the 《Curtain of Dark Clouds》 wouldn't activate unless his HP was greater than 10%. Right now, if he were to receive an attack, he would most likely die.

Since it was much too dangerous, he hadn't experimented with this effect. Therefore, it was a gamble on whether he would die or not when he received Baduta's attack.

It seemed that he wouldn't die instantly even if was stabbed in the heart by a spear.

But, it hurt to death.

If it were a place where no one was around, he would have been crying and shouting.

It was that terrible of an injury but.....The hole that bore into Diablo's chest was closing up.

Even left arm that was cut off was healing up. Since it was in a state where it remained only by the skin, the muscles and bones started to get linked together.

This was also an effect of his equipment. There was an Auto HP Recovery in the 《Distorted Crown》 that was attached to his head.

The recovered amount wasn't significant in the middle of battle, but the recovery was fast enough that it could be seen by the eye.

Blood was still gushing out from Baduta's open wound.

Since the top of his upper arm was severed with a single stroke, that was only natural.

It probably wouldn't stop bleeding unless he got proper surgical treatment or received a miracle of healing.

A greasy sweat spouted out from his forehead.

"It, it can't be.....You mean to tell me you are immortal or something.....? For you to not die even with your heart pierced through....."

"Kukuku, I believe I told you that I am a Demon King."

"Unbelievable....."

"Did you feel that you knew everything of the world? That is the self-conceit of the aged. What you know of is but a mere fraction.....Now then, shall we

continue? We both still have a single arm left after all, right?"

Though, in truth, it was a miracle that he was still standing.

Diablo stuck his hand out at Baduta.

The 《Staff of Tenma》 had fallen down at his feet, but if he were to stoop down to pick it up, it felt as if he would collapse just like that.

He himself had damage that did not amount to much, did not require something like a weapon, and still had much more leeway—That was the Demon King role play that he performed with all his might.

He would absolutely not show any timidity.

Baduta drew his face back.

He shouted towards the bottom.

"Shiiryuu!!"

"Yes, Goshujin-sama!"

When Diablo turned his gaze towards her, the mostly naked maid held a dagger in her hand.

It was brought close to the nape of Rem's neck.

Diablo's blood boiled.

"You bastard, I'll kill you!"

However, Shiiryuu expressed a composed smile. The situation was to the opponent's advantage to that degree.

Baduta talked with a hoarse voice.

"Don't move, is what this means....."

So he blatantly used a hostage.

A hostage means nothing to a Demon King—it would be fine if he were to act tough like that, but seeing as how he had come this far to save her, he didn't have any persuasive power.

Shiiryuu wiped the saliva from her mouth.

"Ufufu.....In the end, it looks like it was Goshujin-sama's tactical victory, doesn't it?"

Rem shouted.

"Diablo! Please don't be concerned with me and fight!"

"Haa.....Haa.....Diablo-sama! Please do not worry about me as well!"

Lumachina also shouted. Her face was flushed. Since it seemed that she was groped for a short while until they had come to save them, it was probably

because of that.

Diablo clenched his fist.

He trembled in anger.

—If I am going to abandon them, I wouldn't have come here to save them in the first place.

What should he do?

How could he save them?

A single arrow ran through the cylindrical room.



It was something that Shera fired.  
The arrow that cut through the air created a jet black afterimage. So that was

the effect that Krum had bestowed.

It was a speed that even Diablo felt like he would lose sight of it.

It headed towards the altar.

By the time Shiiryuu noticed it, it had already pierced through the hand that grasped the dagger. The arrowhead severed the tendons of her fingers, and her grip strength was stolen.

And the arrow that pierced her had also knocked the dagger down from her hand.

"Gyaaaaah——!!"

Shiiryuu raised an animal-like scream.

As if to chase her away, Shera's voice came down.

"That was 《Angel Shoot》!"

It was a Martial Art.

"Agaahhhhhh——!!"

Shiiryuu's right hand started to crackle and turn grey.

《Angel Shot》 didn't have such an effect. It should have been a Martial Art that drastically raised firing accuracy. What could have happened?

The maid that raised a scream ultimately became unable to even let out her voice. Incredibly, her whole body turned grey, and she had turned to stone.

Could it be, was this an effect caused by Krum's magical power!?

Shera was shaken up.

"K, Krum-chan.....this is way too fearsome, and hard to use~!?"

—That was some unexpected fighting power.

Diablo was surprised in his mind.

Krum's bestowed bow was also powerful but.....《Angel Shot》 was a level 60 Martial Art. To think that she was such a high level Archer.

Come to think of it, she did say that she was level 40 as a bow-user when she was a child.

Because of her fluffy speech and conduct, he hadn't relied on Shera in battle up until now. He did notice how she used a Martial Art when they fought with the Shinobi though.....

This might his first time seeing her use the bow seriously.

Baduta was dumbfounded.

"Shiiryuu.....? Would you answer me, Shiiryuu....."

The petrified maid was unable to reply to him.

There was no telling how long the petrification effect of a weapon that the genuine Demon King Krebskrum had bestowed would continue on for.

On top of the altar, there was a shadow that darted about.

Their rabbit ears swayed.

It was the Grasswalker, Horun.

"Ehehe, I need to appeal to Danna that I can be of use, right?"

Rem raised a voice of surprise.

"How were you able to get here!?"

"Well, I hopped straight down, using the uneven walls."

When Horun drew the short sword that he carried on his back, he cut the ropes that restrained Rem's hands and feet. At last, she was freed.

"Th, thank you very much!"

"Nnfufu～. Show plenty of gratitude to me!"

The two of them immediately saved Lumachina as well.

"Ahh, I do not know who you might be, but thank you very much!"

"Ah, come to think of it, I didn't introduce myself, did I -su ka? I'm Horun! Let's go capture a dungeon together -ssu!"

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## Part 6

—So~mehow, we won.

He breathed a sigh in his mind.

Diablo talked as overbearing as he could.

"Fu.....What is wrong, Baduta? Are you not going to come at me? In that case, I shall turn you into ash with my magic, you know?"

"Im, impossible....."

"To receive a shock once you lost, this means that you were that self-conceited. Your cautiousness was but a subjective impression after all."

"Guh.....Damn you.....Damn you....."

"Hmph, there is no merit in using my magic on a fellow that has lost the will to fight. Go and receive the law's judgment."

Diablo lowered his hand.

Baduta glared at him.

".....You all, will end up descending into despair."

"Hou?"

"Though, it is unfortunate that you will not be able to gaze at those faces that have sunken into grief....."

The opponent clenched his right fist.

—This guy! Does he still intend to fight!?

Diablo went into concentrating on his magic.

Baduta's fist shined.

The opponent would activate his Martial Art faster.

"Duooooohh————!!!"

Similar to the 《Finger Blade》 from before, it was a bare handed Martial Art.

Diablo was unable to confirm what the Martial Art was without seeing the move itself but.....

He didn't have the leeway to slowly wait for it. After all, the current Diablo would lose his life if he were to receive an attack.

Baduta thrust his fist out.

A ball of light with SP placed on it came flying this way. So it was 《Shining Blow》.

Diablo shouted.

"《Darkness Cannon》!!"

It was a high ranking magic of the Darkness Attribute. It fired a jet black cannonball of condensed magic power.

Since Diablo wasn't holding the 《Staff of Tenma》, it miraculously turned into a clash of similar looking moves. Though it was between polar opposite attributes of light and darkness.

The attacks that the two of them fired fought against each other, making grinding sounds.

The shock wave spread out.

The stone wall creaked.

Stones finally fell from the ceiling. Sand also came falling down like a waterfall.

The stone wall might not be able to hold out anymore.

Diablo made a declaration.

"In a simple clash, that depends upon level and equipment, there are no factors where I would lose."

The 《Darkness Cannon》's cannonball overcame Baduta's ball of light. It hit him as he was stiff from firing a big move.

"GobaAaaaa————!!"

He was blown away.

Baduta crashed into the stone wall, and it crumbled greater than expected.

Even more sand came falling down from that impact.

Baduta could no longer move.

\*Gishiri gishiri\* The entire cylindrical room had an unpleasant creaking sound reverberating in it.

It seemed that a large amount of damage was given to the building.

Shera came galloping down the stairway.

"Diablo—!!"

"Y, you fool! Why did you come here!?"

"I mean, Diablo, it looked like you were in trouble!"

"The building has already started to collapse!"

"Un! That's why we need to hurry up and get out of here!"

The choice of "saving only myself" had been completely omitted to Shera.

She picked up the 《Staff of Tenma》 that rolled on the floor.

\*Dogaga\* A large sound was heard from the top of the stairway.

When they turned around, at the place that Shera had just been standing at—  
The entrance collapsed.

"Hya~~~~!?"

Shera raised a scream.

If she had thought about self-protection and waited around the door, she would have been buried under the stones.

Diablo adjusted his breathing.

"Fuu—....."

Shera became teary eyed.

"Wh, what do we do!? Our way out is gone now!?"

"Let's rush down."

"Fue~!?"

"There is no time to explain."

Sand was steadily falling down from the ceiling.

As he thought, this cylindrical room wasn't going to hold out much longer. Since he was in a state where an arm was going to tear off, it was fairly hard for him to run but.....he wore the 《Demon King's Ring》 on his left hand. He couldn't allow himself to lose this.

He urgently ran down to the bottom.

Shera followed after him, holding onto the 《Staff of Tenma》.

Getting down to the bottom, they ran while avoiding the people that were drowning in pleasures even in this sort of situation. Even as these people were buried in sand or crushed by falling rocks, their sanity didn't return.

They arrived at the altar.

"Diablo!!"

The one that jumped into his chest was Rem.

For the normally composed girl to become this emotional.....

He instinctively made a serious face.

"C, could it be, something was done to you right up until the end.....?"

"HA!? What are you saying such foolish nonsense for!? Not even a single finger touched me!"

"Then, Lumachina was!?"

Going \*Kaaaah.....\*, Lumachina's face went red. Coupled together with her eyes that had been crying, a fairly dangerous atmosphere hung in the air.

"N, nothing was done to me! I was t, touched, and.....licked.....but.....only that.....I, haven't had anything done to me, right, Rem!? Please say something!"

Rem talked with a serious face.

".....Let us hurry up and escape, Diablo."

"Rem—!?"

Lumachina looked like she was about to cry.

The two's mental care was important, but that was a story for after getting out from this situation where they could be crushed under sand and stone.

Horun brought his face out.

"Danna! W-w-what do we do -su ka—!?"

"So you were still here. I thought that you had already escaped."

"That's so mean -ssu—!?"

Diablo took the 《Staff of Tenma》 from Shera, and thrust it into the altar.

The range was through contact.

It required a slightly long concentration time.

—Don't come crumbling down on us, okay~?

Rem got Horun, who was making a racket, into a Nelson hold and quieted him down.

Shera and Lumachina stared at Diablo with serious faces.

Diablo casted his magic.

"Alter the place we should be through my will—《Adzett》ツ!!"

The altar levitated.

And then, the ceiling collapsed.

A great number of stones and a huge amount of sand came falling down.

Shera shouted.

"D, Diablo, help——!!"

"Leave it to me."

—My remaining MP.....I'll cram it, all, into this maximum magic!

"O atmosphere, roar, twirl into a spiral, and pierce through heaven and earth!  
《Grand Tornado》!!"

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# Epilogue

# Part 1

The West side of Zircon Tower City—  
Just before the break of dawn, the sky had already become bright. Many of the tents that were there were shined upon.  
In the place where a queue was usually made, there was currently no one there.  
Because there were mysterious explosions and tremors with unknown causes that continuously occurred throughout the night, the people had separated themselves from the crowd of tents.  
One tent had been sucked into the ground.  
A hole had opened up.  
Sand fell into a conical shape, and that hole widened.  
Surrounding and watching it at a distance, the people raised screams saying that either the world was ending or that the lid of hell had been opened.

A tornado spouted out from the hole.

Stones and sand, even a portion of the tent that had fallen in were blown up into the sky and fell down into the surroundings.  
Massive things that couldn't be lifted unless done by a great number of people were falling down from the sky as if it were rain.  
The people raise screams, and trembled in fear.  
And then, they saw it.  
From the bottom of the hole, an altar was rising up.  
Several young girls were huddled together.  
The one standing at the center of the altar was a man wearing black garments.  
He was growing horns.  
Someone muttered this.

—It's the Demon King.

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## Part 2

"It, it's floating!? It's floating -ssu~!?"

".....Please don't be so noisy. It will disrupt Diablo's concentration."

With both of her hands, Rem dammed up Horun's mouth who was unable to calm down.

"Mu—!? Mugu—!?"

".....Keep quiet."

Shera held the shoulders of Lumachina whose waist had given out from all of the surprise and supported her.

"H, how, incredible....."

"Lumachina-chan, are you alright?"

"As, as I thought.....Diablo-sama is.....Kami-sama, isn't he....."

"Are you really alright!?"

While she was looking after Krum, Shera might have become a bit more like an Onee-san.

Come to think of it, the petrified Shiryuu was also standing at the corner of the altar. What the heck will happen to her?

There was only the second time, but he had used 《Flight Magic》 and it was much more stable than the last time.

When he looked from above, he could tell that the ground had greatly caved in.

"I suppose I will lower this down in a place a bit further from here."

He was not very good at moving horizontally, but it looked dangerous to put it down close to the collapsed area. It was also difficult to do with the people of the town observing after all.

Although they were already standing out as things were now.....

Diablo was unable to stay composed if a great number of people were to be observing him.

He slowly moved the altar outside of town.

Rem cast her gaze off towards the distance.

".....It is beautiful."

"Nn? Ahh....."

It was right when the morning sun was ascending from the horizon.

The clouds were glowing deep red.

Rem's eyes that were looking this way were moist. Her cheeks were slightly stained with tears.

He thought of her as cute normally but.....Today's Rem, she was cute enough for him to want to hold her in his arms just like this and take her home.

—No, we're going back to the same place.

He once again thought that he was glad that he saved her.

Within the hands of that Rem, Horun had become unable to breath and was getting close to dying.

"Nh.....Ngh.....!!"

"D, Diablo!"

The one that suddenly changed their expression and raised their voice was Shera.

When he turned around, Lumachina was making a pained-looking face. Her breathing had become rough.

"Haa.....haa.....haa.....haa....."

"What is it!? What happened!?"

"This!"

Shera rolled up Lumachina's clothes.

On her thigh, a dark purple nevus had been created.

An × mark.

".....Why!?"

Rem shouted.

Diablo felt goosebumps rise up.

"Marked Death Disease....."



The words that Diablo said himself felt distant as if someone else had said them.

Miracles had no effect on Lumachina. She herself had said it—That even if someone were to pray for her, not a single scratch on her would heal. Even if they were to have a priest pray, they would be unable to heal this. Diablo tightly grasped his fist. So what Baduta had said was about this!

“.....You all, will end up descending into despair”

Most likely, he had probably done something when he captured Lumachina. Sorcery had been performed at that place after all. Shera trembled.

"No way.....L, Lumachina-chan.....is going to die..... Diablo, save her....." Her eyes were overflowing with tears.

Although she was in pain, Lumachina expressed a smile.

"Please do not cry.....Shera. I am.....fine.....If I am to die, that is Kami-sama's discretion....."

"That is right. That is why, you will not die just yet."

"Eh?"

"You are going to reform the rotten Church, are you not? For that sake, you depended on the Head of the Holy Knights and came all the way here. Was that not the case?"

".....It is just.....as you say."

"Was your journey here for the sake of running away and hiding from the Cardinal Institute? Or was it for the sake of fighting against them?"

"T, to fight against, them."

"In that case! Put strength into your abdomen. Do not yield to some mere sorcery. And if you require it.....I shall lend you my strength!"

Life returned to Lumachina's eyes.

Her breathing that had become rough had calmed down somewhat.

Though she was still being supported by Shera, she raised her body up.

She put both of her hands together.

"Yes.....I, will not lose.....to something like sorcery."

"Umu! You had best place your trust in me, for I shall negate that sorcery."

"Of course, I have faith in you."

Lumachina nodded.

Shera asked a question.

"What are you going to do, Diablo!?"

Even Rem and Horun were staring at him.

Diablo curved the ends of his lips, and expressed a smile.

"We shall head towards a certain dungeon! It is there that we shall obtain the things that you all require!"

The “charm that heals the Marked Death Disease” that he obtained from a limited-time event should be stored in the treasury of his personal space.

Horun raised his fists overhead.

"OSSHA~~~~A!!"

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# Afterword

Thank you very much for reading the fourth volume of 'Isekai Maou to Shoukan Shoujo no Dorei Majutsu'.

This is the author 'Murasaki Yukiya'.

Charge into a new chapter! is what the current volume felt like.

The new Heroine Lumachina was planned to be a stiff character but.....she turned into a somewhat amusing girl, didn't she. I am happy if you were pleased with her. She's already close to death though.....

This time, there were so many battles that I thought "are there a bit too many?". I was relieved that I could somehow finish this in one volume.

The previous volume's Demon King Krebskrum was "high specs but tactics are childish" but this time's enemy was "specs are inferior but a tactician". I am blessed if you were able to enjoy it.

In the next volume, we finally go to Diablo's personal airspace! It is the capturing of the dungeon he created himself!

This is some advertisement—The first volume of the comic by means of Fukuda Naoto-sensei has been published at the same time as this book! Since the components have been fully loaded in the comicalization, by all means, please try reading it.

The serialization is in the WEB manga Niconico Seiga 'Wednesday Series'. It is currently free and open to the public.

'Altina the Sword Princess'(Famitsu Bunko) is in the middle of publication.

Thanks—

Tsurusaki Takahiro-sensei, thank you very much for the wonderful illustrations. It feels like you usually challenge the limits, but this time, you attacked it considerably!

Designer from Afterglow, Ooishi-sama, thank you very much as always. This time was a perfect design as well.

Shouji-sama who is in charge of editing, I have given you trouble with this and that. It is thanks to you that this became a book.

Everyone of the Kodansha Lightnovel Bunko Editorial Department and people of the staff. Family and friends that gave me support.  
And then, I give my highest level of gratitude to the dear readers that read this.  
Thank you very much!

Murasaki Yukiya

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